

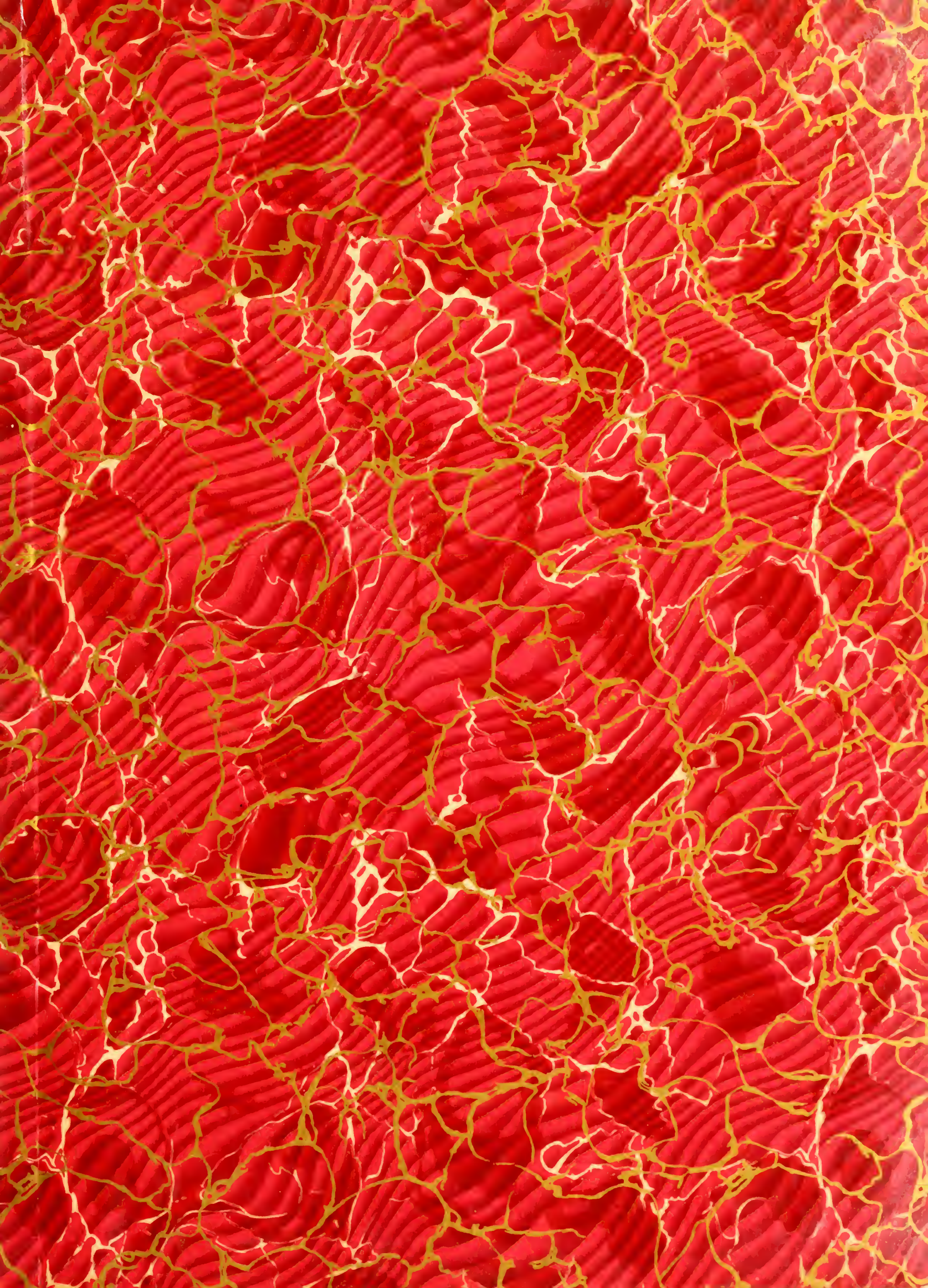
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THE
DAILY EAGLE'S
ILLUSTRATED
HISTORY
OF
MT. VERNON

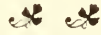
EMBRACING A DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY
OF ITS LOCAL GOVERNMENT, RE-
LIGIOUS, SOCIAL AND COM-
MERCIAL INSTITUTIONS,
WITH BIOGRAPHICAL
SKETCHES.

PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.

COMPILED AND EDITED
BY
GEORGE O. BEACH
WITH THE COLLABORATION OF
JOSEPH S. WOOD
FOR THE

DAILY EAGLE
MT. VERNON, N. Y.

1903.

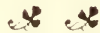


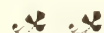
PREFACE.

THE compilation of this volume has involved diligent research and painstaking investigation. There may be, and doubtless are, inaccuracies in the work, and possibly sins of omission, both are inevitable. "History," Sir Robert Walpole wrote, "must be false," but this is designed to be, and I believe is, fairly trustworthy.

I am indebted for valuable information to the Rev. William S. Coffey and to Messrs. Clarence S. McClellan and Alvah P. French

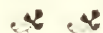
G. O. B.





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History of Mount Vernon

CHAPTER I.

SETTLEMENT.—PIONEERS AND EARLY SETTLERS—DEVELOPMENT.

The history of Mount Vernon is comparatively brief; it is the record of little more than half a century in which from "fields invested with purple gleams" there has arisen a thriving city with twenty-five thousand inhabitants, among whom are numbered several of its founders, who in their waning years realize that they builded wiser than they knew.

In 1850 the high rents demanded for dwellings and living accommodations in New York led a number of persons of



The Old Bowerman Homestead, South Columbus Avenue.

moderate means, and with creditable aspirations, to combine for the purpose of securing for themselves homes at a small and conveniently arranged expenditure. "The Home Industrial Association, No. 1, of New York City," was among the earliest of these formations. The originator of this particular project was John Stevens, a tailor doing business at 476 Hudson street, New York. The association was organized on the 9th of July, 1850, in the rooms of the "Mechanics' Mutual Protection, No. 11," when a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and Mr. Stevens was elected President, which office he held during its existence. Membership was solicited to the extent of one thousand of those of good moral character, industrious habits and with a desire to promote the common purpose—protection against the unjust power and influence of capital, and against land monopoly as the efficient cause of poverty. Each member was required to pay into the Treasury or General Fund not less than twenty-five, nor more than seventy-five dollars within one and a half years' time after the adoption of this constitution, for the purpose of purchasing not less than two hundred and fifty acres of land in one location, said land to be purchased, surveyed, levelled and graded by an Executive Committee at the expense of the Society, and then divided equally, no member having more than one equal share.

The first regular meeting of the association was held in the old Watch House, at the corner of Christopher and Hud-

son streets, New York, on the 19th of July, 1850, and subsequently weekly meetings were held at Barker's "House of Call," 127 Grand street. Horace Greeley became a member of the association on the 30th of August, 1850, and later was added to the Executive Committee. The membership increased rapidly. On the 16th of October, 1850, the association authorized the purchase of land in the town of East Chester, comprising five farms, the properties respectively of John R. Hayward, Sylvanus Purdy, Andrew Purdy, and his two sons, John and Andrew Oscar. These farms aggregated about 370 acres, and the first cheque of \$3,400 on account of the payment was given by John Stevens, as purchasing trustee, on the 1st of November, 1850.

The tract extended from about the present line of Valentine street and Prospect avenue on the north, to a little below Sixth street on the south, except that a small angle at the southwest corner extended to the Kingsbridge road. The eastern boundary was at Union avenue, extending west to beyond the present line of Fifteenth avenue. Though the name of Monticello had, among others, been tentatively considered and generally approved, it was finally decided, on the 27th of December, 1850, to adopt the name of Mount Vernon for the new settlement.

On the 10th of January, 1851, the thousandth name was



Ruins, Caused by Fire at First Street and Fourth Avenue, October 8th, 1873.

signed to the roll of members, and no more were admitted. On the 18th of April of that year, Andrew Findlay, who had been employed to survey and lay out the tract in lots and streets, presented his map of the proposed village, which was approved and filed on the 7th of June following. The plan provided for the necessary streets, each sixty feet wide, for

one thousand quarter-acre plots for distribution among the members; for four half-acre plots for school purposes, and a similar plot for a station on the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. The physical labor of laying out and grading the land was performed under contract by one O'Brien. Though it was planned to have all streets sixty feet wide from line to line, the carriage-ways to be thirty-six feet, and the side-walks twelve



Depressing Track of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R.
First Street, between 5th and 6th Avenues.

feet wide, there was, on the 26th of September, 1851, for some reason unknown, adopted a resolution "that each member be privileged to set his fence five feet on the sidewalk, still leaving the sidewalk ten feet clear." The members availed themselves of this privilege, which necessarily resulted in reducing the width of the roadways to thirty feet.

On the 1st of November, 1851, John Stevens, as trustee, executed one thousand deeds conveying to the individual members of the association the lot or parcel of ground chosen and purchased by them respectively, and as shown upon the map before mentioned, made by Andrew Findlay for the association. The records show that on the 6th of August, 1852, "the Trustees reported that the deed for the five feet in front of each lot could not, in their opinion, be given to the owners, as it did not belong to the Association." At the time of the sale and division of the property of the association, Mr. Stevens became the purchaser of the "Purdy Mansion," the most valuable house then located upon the property, for \$2,650. It is at the northeast corner of Sixth avenue and Fourth street, and was for many years conspicuous because of a large elm tree which was upon the ground north of the house, in the lower branches of which was built a platform



Eastchester Dock.

reached by steps from below. As the tree increased in size, it was strengthened by iron bands and braces to better sup-

port the balcony that surrounded it; but eventually it became unsafe by reason of age, and about ten years ago was cut down, leaving perhaps twenty feet of its trunk, which still remains covered by creeping vines. There were but three other houses on the property purchased by the association that were sold for a sum exceeding a thousand dollars; they were: lot 305, with the house thereon, sold to Daniel Mansion for \$1,750; lot 913, with the house thereon, sold to James Coles for \$1,125; and lot 839, with the house thereon, sold to Andrew Purdy for \$1,025.

Among the noteworthy landmarks of those early days now remaining, is the old stone house on the east side of Fourth avenue, north of Sixth street, the property of William J. Collins; the frame house on Ninth avenue near Second street, which belonged to one of the Purdys; the house on Tenth avenue near Second street, where John Oakley for many years conducted a boarding and day school, and the old Searing house on Eleventh avenue, first owned by Daniel Searing, one of the patriots of the Revolution. The surviving members of the association living in this city are Sanford Hallock, Sr., 210 South Fourth avenue; John Lachenhauer, 223 South Twelfth avenue; Joseph Tomlinson, 13 South Sixth avenue, and J. S. Van Court, 147 Stevens avenue.

The last report of the secretary of the association, made on the 6th of August, 1852, shows that \$106,859.08 had been paid in by members and received from sales of the property. Of this sum about \$25,000 went for draining and grad-



Summit Avenue, Looking North from Sidney Avenue.

ing, while the remainder represents the original cost of the property purchased and the expenses of the association.

Proceedings for incorporation were begun on the 26th of August, 1853, at which date a census showed the population to be 1,370. An election was held on the 3d of December of that year, at the cigar store of William McCaffie, corner of Third avenue and Third street, to get an expression of public sentiment on the question of incorporation. The Inspectors of Election were Amos Cheeney, William Morse and Gilbert Morgan. The vote was eighty-two in favor of incorporation, and fifty-two opposed. The papers were filed in the office of the Clerk of Westchester County on the 13th of December, 1853, the petition being signed by Stephen Bogart, Thomas Jones, John B. Brennan, Enoch Douglass, Amzi Hill, Henry Biggins, John Darrols and William Wisdom, the first named being the president of the new village until an election should be held.

West Mount Vernon was settled almost contemporaneously by the "Teutonic Homestead Association," composed mainly of Germans to the number of five hundred, who had purchased 131½ acres of land lying between the northwestern



GEORGE R. CRAWFORD.

boundary line of Mount Vernon and the Bronx river. Several other adjoining settlements followed this, as East Mount Vernon, Central Mount Vernon, Fleetwood and Chester Hill. West Mount Vernon and Central Mount Vernon were incorporated as one village in 1869, and Christian Ross became its first president. In 1878 West Mount Vernon was, by legislative enactment, united to Mount Vernon, as had been done at an earlier date with East Mount Vernon. Other additions were from time to time made until the territory embraced within the area of Mount Vernon extended from the Hutchinson river on the east, to the Bronx river on the west, and from the northerly line of New York City, just below the

to take an active part in public affairs; was elected President of the village in 1861; was for several years a member of the School Board, and served twenty years as Justice of the Peace. He died in his eightieth year while on a visit to his son in Plainfield, N. J.

PIONEERS AND EARLY SETTLERS.

When the Home Industrial Association acquired the property heretofore described, there were but few houses on it, and the adjoining land which was subsequently annexed to Mount Vernon was not then thickly settled. The most prom-



South Fourth Avenue at Fourth Street.
Mount Vernon Hospital.



Armory, Co. B., First Regiment N. G., N. Y.
Martha Wilson Home, (Old Ladies)

Kingsbridge road, on the south, to the northern-most point of the town of Pelham, thence westerly along a line extending across the town of East Chester parallel with the northern boundary line of New York City, to the Bronx river on the north.

The Home Industrial Association held ninety-six meetings in all, the last being on the 6th of December, 1854. Though the regular meetings were discontinued in March, 1852, those subsequently held were for the purpose of disposing of the remaining interests of the individual members of the association in the property not before deeded to them by Mr. Stevens as trustee.

Mr. Stevens, who may properly be called the founder of Mount Vernon, was a man of great force and sterling integrity. After the incorporation of the village he continued

ment of the residents were: David Allerton, who built the house and owned the estate on the White Plains road now occupied by ex-Judge Mills; Charles Archer, for whom Archer avenue was named; William H. Bard, who became, and continued for many years to be, the leading dealer in real estate in the town of East Chester; George Gould, who built and conducted the Mount Vernon Hotel; Joshua Hunt, who owned a large tract of land, including the familiar "Hunt's woods," to the east of which the old homestead still stands; Pelham L. McClellan, who became the first village clerk, was a Supervisor from 1860 to 1862, and was elected District Attorney for Westchester County in 1864; Peter Rich, for whom Rich avenue was named; John W. Sageman, who gave the name to Sageman's corners, and John L. Straub, the father of the present City Treasurer.

Of those who settled or were born here in the next twenty-five years, and who became identified in one way or another with Mount Vernon's progress, may be mentioned:

James M. Anderson.
George C. Appell.
Caleb S. Babcock.
Dr. A. T. Banning.

Minott C. Kellogg.
Jessie Lantz.
Daniel Lewis.
Henry Lohman.



Second Avenue, Looking North from Fourth Street.

George L. Baxter.
Samuel Bernstein.
John Berry.
William Braidwood.
John H. Brett.
Andrew Bridgeman.
Simeon L. Close.
George F. Coleman.
William J. Collins.
George R. Crawford.
Burr Davis.
John M. Dearborn.
Jacob Drews.

Horace Loomis.
Philip Lucas, Jr.
Gerd Martens.
Arthur J. McCarten.
James M. Nelson.
Charles H. Ostrander.
William H. Pemberton.
Edward L. Phipps.
Gideon D. Pond.
David Quackinbush.
William Saxton.
Richard Seder.
Theodore T. Tlor.



Lincoln Avenue, Looking West from Fulton Avenue.

Alfred H. Duncombe.
William P. Esterbrook.
Donald Ferguson.
Azro Fowler.
Edward Gay.
Albert F. Gescheidt.
Aaron R. Haight.
William Holdredge.
John F. Jarvis.
James H. Jenkins.

Edward Underhill.
William H. VanArsdale.
Beckman VanGaasbeck.
John VanSantvoord.
Joseph Weber.
Charles H. Weiss.
Dr. George C. Weiss.
Max Wintjen.
Joseph S. Wood.
J. Frank Wright.

DEVELOPMENT.

At the settling of Mount Vernon a post-office was located at Hunt's bridge, then outside the limits, Joshua Heustis being the first postmaster. In a short time the office was transferred to the Mount Vernon Hotel building. A. M. Hix succeeded Mr. Heustis, and the subsequent postmasters have been George Gould, J. S. VanCourt, Jackson Hart, Jonathan A. Searles, Andrew Bridgeman, who served twenty-three years, David Quackinbush, Henry Huss, Clarence S. McClellan and David O. Williams, the present incumbent.

On the 6th of August, 1852, the Executive Committee of the Industrial Association reported that three hundred houses had been erected or were constructing. In that year Mount Vernon was made a regular station on the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. Since then the growth has been continuous and uninterrupted. It will be expedient to follow Mount Vernon's expansion step by step, placing the noteworthy events, so far as practicable, in chronological order.

1852. A public school, conducted by John A. Graves, was located on the second floor of the unfinished house of J. L. Guerin, at the corner of Fifth avenue and Third street. A few months later it was removed to Journeau's Hall, at Fifth avenue and Fourth street. In the autumn was begun the erection of a school-house in Fourth avenue near Fourth



Fourth Avenue, Looking South from Fourth Street.

street. A separate paper, by Mr. Joseph S. Wood, treating of our schools, constitutes a part of this work.

1855. A social spirit was early manifested among the settlers. On the 12th of January was formed the Mount Vernon Literary Association, with Mr. Pelham L. McClellan, President; and on the 28th of February the Mount Vernon Horticultural Society was created, with Henry Biggins, President. On the 24th of November was organized Clinton Hook & Ladder Company, of which Drake P. Todd was elected foreman. It was located in Third street, in the rear of Hallock's bakehouse.

1857. John Oakley established at his residence, in Tenth avenue, near Second street, a select boarding and day school, which he conducted until 1879. On the 25th of August, Hiawatha Lodge No. 434, F. & A. M., received its warrant of dispensation, and its charter on the 8th of June, 1858. Dedication and installation of officers took place June 24th in that year. William M. Palmer, Jr., was its first Master. Meetings were held in an upper room of Van Court's store. Its present officers are Samuel N. Hoag, Master; Elmer P. Smith, Senior Warden; Jarvis W. Mason, Junior Warden; Burr Davis, Treasurer, and Harry R. Lowe, Secretary. An association was formed to erect a building with steam power



HENRY C. JONES, M. D.

snitable for manufacturing purposes. The building was located in Sixth avenue south of First street. In the early years of the Civil War it was occupied by Johnston & Dow for the production of cartridges; later, and until 1869, Benjamin W. Tilton used it as a carriage factory; next came Harrison, Bradford & Co., who established a pen factory with seventy-five employees; J. W. Nichols then used it for the manufacture of hats; afterward it became a storehouse and salesroom for building materials, and finally it was converted into what is now known as the Martens flats. A year later Edmund Hoole erected a building in Fourth avenue for the manufacture of duplex checks and railroad stamps. He met with great success, and eventually removed his business to New York.

tenant, Charles Canfield; Second Lieutenant, Walter D. Gorham. The acting Surgeon is Dr. H. Eugene Smith, who is on the regimental staff of Col. Robert T. Emmett.

1866. "The Wartburg Orphan Farm School" of the Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized, though it was not incorporated until 1869. The buildings erected for the uses of the institution were located on ground purchased outside the village limits, but which is now in the north-east corner of the present city.

1867. Gas was introduced, and distributed from a plant erected by I. Edward Ireland. Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 195, I. O. O. F., was instituted, with Thomas R. Jones as N. G., and John H. Jennings as V. G. The present officers are: N. G., Thomas H. Hodge; V. G., William Moebus; Re-



N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. Station
East First Street, West from Third Avenue



Martens Building
East First Street from City Hall

1863. On the 27th of October was formed Company C, 17th Regiment, N. G., with forty-six men, of which William S. McClellan was Captain, A. C. Beardsley, First Lieutenant, and W. H. VanCott, Second Lieutenant. Its armory was in Union Hall, corner of Sixth avenue and First street. It was disbanded in August, 1868. Several other companies were subsequently formed, none of which now exist except the Eleventh Separate Company Infantry, N. G., N. Y., which was organized on the 14th of June, 1876, as a Troop of Cavalry, and Samuel O. Howe was elected its Captain. Its original armory was in Union Hall. In October, 1881, the company was reorganized into a company of infantry as the Eleventh Separate Company. It is now Company B, 1st Regiment, N. G., N. Y. It is housed in a fine armory in north Fifth avenue, and its officers are: Captain, M. F. Carmody; First Lieu-

tenant, John Lambert; Financial Secretary, John H. Jennings, and Treasurer, James B. Spicer. A German lodge—Einheit—was formed eleven years later.

1868. Mount Vernon Chapter No. 228, R. A. M., instituted under a dispensation of 10th of June, 1868, was constituted on the 15th of February, 1869, with John H. Gray as first High Priest. It is now officered as follows: High Priest, Edwin L. Loudon; King, Samuel N. Hoag; Scribe, Joseph Tomlinson; Treasurer, Burr Davis, and Secretary, C. F. Sherman.

1871. Bethlehem Commandery No. 53, Knights Templar, was organized under dispensation of 8th May, 1871, at New Rochelle, receiving its warrant in October following. The Rev. William S. Coffey was the first Eminent Commander. It was removed, by authority, to Mount Vernon, 17th of Sep-

tember, 1886. It has a unique and appropriate asylum in the building at the southwest corner of Fifth avenue and First street. It is constructed to represent the courtyard of a castellated structure of the middle ages, having its ancient gateway, massive walls, towers, battlements and turrets, with ivy-grown windows, etc. This realistic work, and the success of the organization, are due to the efforts of Past Commander George R. Crawford and his zealous associates. The present officers are: Eminent Commander, Daniel Lewis; Generalissimo, J. Caleb Fisher; Captain-General, Theodore Taylor; Senior Warden, Charles W. Heusted; Junior Warden, Samuel N. Hoag; Prelate, Edwin L. Loudon; Treasurer, Charles A. Hodgman, and Recorder, Edgar T. Stewart.

1880. The Chronicle building was erected by Joseph S. Wood on the east side of Fourth avenue. To the efforts of Mr. Wood is largely due the establishment of Pelham Bay Park. Farnsworth Post No. 170, G. A. R., was organized 21st of July. Its present officers are: Commander, Henry E. Rhoades; Senior Vice-Commander, J. L. D. Riker; Junior Vice-Commander, Henry Lilly; Adjutant, William P. Sleight; Quartermaster, N. VanHorsen; Surgeon, J. Q. A. Hollister; Chaplain, Charles N. VanCourt; Officer of the Day, A. Goodenough; Guard, Ernest Grube; Quartermaster-Sergeant, William Wilson, Jr., and Sergeant-Major, William A. Anderson. The Young Men's Christian Association was organized on the 24th of October, though it was not incorporated until the



Soldiers' Monument



Bronx River, at Oak Street Bridge



St. Paul's Church, Episcopal

1873. On the 8th of October occurred a fire at First street and Fourth avenue which destroyed sixteen buildings, including three hotels. The loss was estimated to exceed \$125,000, while the insurance was less than \$70,000. In that year John Berry erected the building on the west side of Fourth avenue, now occupied by Gemm & McArdle. At the time of its construction it was the most pretentious building in the village.

1875. Guiding Star Encampment No. 83, I. O. O. F., was chartered on 10th of February. Its officers are: C. P., Edmund A. Knight; H. P., George Bedell; S. W., William Robertson; Recording Scribe, A. Murray Jenks; Financial Scribe, John H. Jennings; J. W., Thomas H. Hodge, and Treasurer, Henry Rabe.

28th of July, 1885. John VanSantvoord was its first president.*

1882. The Mount Vernon Water Company was incorporated to furnish the village with water. The supply was derived from a well 500 feet deep sunk in Seventh Avenue near Third Street, with a capacity of 72,000 gallons a day. In 1886 this company was absorbed by the N. Y. & M. V. Water Co., which secured its supply from the Hutchinson River, providing a reservoir at Pelhamville with a storage capacity of 20,000,000 gallons. The last company was succeeded by the N. Y. City Suburban Water Company in 1891, which increased the supply by acquiring the "Tom Paine" brook, where was constructed an additional reservoir

* A local newspaper, several years ago, gave the date of organization, 1st of October, 1883; but the writer has followed the text of the Rev. Dr. Coffey's sketch.



MINOT C. KELLOGG.

of 88,000,000 gallons capacity. In 1894 was adopted a purifying process by aeration and sand filtration. The title of the existing company is the New York Inter-Urban Water Company, which acquired all property and rights of its predecessors on the 28th November, 1901.

1884. The Armory for the Eleventh Separate Company, now Company B, was built at Fifth avenue and North street.

1885. The population of the village was found to be 5,560.

1887. This year brought the Chester Hill district to the



Second Street, looking east from 5th Avenue.

fore. In the years 1868-9, Mr. Charles Crary, of New York, bought several farms aggregating about 150 acres, and lying north of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. tracks, south of the White Plains road, and between Columbus avenue and what is now known as Crary avenue. The average cost to Mr. Crary was less than \$500 an acre. The plot was mapped out into lots and streets, and some grading and road-making was done. Within the next eighteen years perhaps fifteen or twenty unpretentious houses were built upon the tract, the purchasers paying from \$500 to \$700 each for their lots. In 1887 Col. Herman Henneberger, also of New York, bought eighteen



Second Avenue, looking north from 3rd Street.

acres of land north of the White Plains road, and east of Fourth avenue, for about \$800 an acre. Immediately there began a boom for real estate in that vicinity. The Henneberger tract, or most of it, became known as Villa Park, and that, together with the "Conklin & Chivvis," the "Joseph S. Wood," and the "J. Frank Wright" plots were opened up for sale, and were known as additions to Chester Hill, which had originally comprised the area bounded by the White Plains road, the N. Y. & N. H. tracks, Park and Summit avenues. The "Forster" and Coreoran Manor plots were soon put upon

the market. To-day that entire territory, including of course the Crary tract, abounds with fine residences costing from \$5,000 to \$35,000 each. Lots of fifty feet front, when they can be bought, readily bring \$3,500 each, or at the rate of \$28,000 an acre; and the lands on the northeast, up to the city line, are being rapidly developed with a view of supplying the demand for eligible building sites in that vicinity. Several years later, Vernon Heights, a section lying south of East Third street, and east of Columbus avenue, was opened up for improvement. Lots have sold well; many fine houses have been built, and the tract is regarded as a close rival of Chester Hill. The Dearborn building, on the east side of Fourth avenue, was erected, and soon thereafter the upper floors were occupied by the village offices.

1888. There was laid on the 8th of December the corner stone of a fine building erected for the Young Men's Christian Association. It was finished and dedicated on the 1st of October, 1889. It is in Fourth avenue north of Second street.

1890. On the 18th of January there was a meeting of citizens, from which was appointed a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws for a proposed association to secure the establishment of a hospital in Mount Vernon. At a later meeting the constitution and by-laws reported were adopted, and officers elected, who were cheered by the announcement



Archer Avenue, looking north from Prospect Avenue.

that \$1,500 had already been subscribed toward the Mount Vernon Emergency Hospital. A building owned by Col. Henry Huss, at Valentine street and Seventh avenue, was hired at a nominal rent, and was ready for the reception of patients on the 21st of May. Subsequently contributions from various sources added to the association's funds. Miss Martha Wilson gave to the extent of \$10,000; others did as their means permitted; a fair held in the winter of 1891 yielded \$1,500 net, so that the Board of Managers was encouraged to plan for a new building, the cornerstone of which was laid on the 22d of February, 1893. It was completed in September of that year, at a cost of about \$16,000. Immediately upon its occupancy the public was invited to inspect the building, and incidentally to aid the success of a fair then in progress for the benefit of the hospital. It yielded \$5,500. The building is located on Seventh avenue north of Valentine street. Last year, through the liberality of Charles Hill Willson, there was built an extensive addition, comprising rooms for patients and nurses, and a diet-kitchen as well as a sitting room for the use of nurses. He also fitted up, in the original building, in memory of his mother, a completely furnished room to be known as the "Mary Hill Willson" room. The physicians of the city cheerfully render gratuitous service to the hospital. The managers have the assistance and co-operation

of the Woman's Auxiliary, an organization effected in May, 1901. It is composed of many, indeed a greater part, of the public-spirited women of the city, who render valuable service through their several committees. The President of the Auxiliary is Mrs. Cornelius McLean, who is ably assisted by earnest associate officers. There is, in addition, a Junior Auxiliary, comprising the sympathetic young girls of the city, who do their part by supplying books and flowers. The managers of the hospital are James M. Anderson, John Clawson, William D. Howe and Maitland B. Sloat. The hospital is not a city institution, and does not derive its revenue from the city treasury. The work is dependent upon the contributions of citizens whose humane impulse leads them to aid the cause, or who are impelled by local pride to assist the maintenance of so laudable an undertaking.

William J. Paskett and Dr. Edward F. Brush. The Finance Committee received prompt subscriptions from public-spirited citizens to the amount of \$1,950, which encouraged the projectors to believe that the total sum necessary for the construction of a suitable monument would ultimately be subscribed; and this was confirmed by the assurance of Charles Hill Willson, who advised the monument committee to proceed with the work, and he would make good any deficiency. The monument, a notable example of its kind, was erected, and dedicatory exercises took place on Memorial Day, 1891. The Rev. Oliver Dyer presided. The address was delivered by ex-Postmaster-General Thomas L. James. Farnsworth Post, G. A. R., and many other local organizations participated in the ceremonies, which were in charge of Charles M. Moseman as Grand Marshal, and which were made especially at-



V. M. C. A. Building.
Lincoln Avenue, East from Rich Avenue.



Second Avenue, North from Fourth Street.
Police Headquarters.

A meeting of citizens was held on the 13th of June, at the residence of John VanSantvoord, to form an association having in view the erection in Mount Vernon of a monument to the memory of the soldiers and sailors who had offered their lives in defense of the Union. The following officers were elected: President, Charles M. Moseman; First Vice-President, Charles Hill Willson; Second Vice-President, Rev. Oliver Dyer; Treasurer, John VanSantvoord; Secretary, Frank Gorham, and Corresponding Secretary, Charles J. Chatfield. Subsequent meetings of the association were held at the house of Henry Huss, 48 Valentine street. Committees were appointed as follows: Finance Committee, John N. Lockhart, John Berry, John M. Dearborn, Dr. S. L. Close and Gouverneur Rogers. Monument Committee, Henry Huss,

raetive by the admirable singing of the school children, under the leadership of Alfred Hallam. The monument is located at Sixth avenue and Valentine street, upon a plot of ground purchased from Col. Huss at a fraction of its value. The base of the monument, ten feet high, is of granite. The bronze figure surmounting it is of a typical American soldier. It is 8 feet high; was designed by Karl Gerhard, of Hartford, Conn., and was cast at Chicopee, Mass. Beneath the monument, at its erection, was placed a copper box containing memoranda of the personnel of the several committees, a list of the contributors, copies of M. V. and N. Y. newspapers, a small silk American flag, Indian arrow-heads, flint for flintlock muskets, percussion-caps, modern cartridges, continental money, confederate notes, greenbacks, and a history of the



GEORGE HAYES.

Home Industrial Association which founded Mount Vernon. The monument was suitably inscribed upon its erection; but several years later, through the efforts of the Board of Trade, this additional inscription was placed on the west tablet: "This tablet is inscribed to the noble women who from home, hospital and field, contributed to the preservation of the Union." On the grounds surrounding the monument are two eight-inch howitzers, and eighty ten-inch shells, the latter piled in pyramids. These were obtained, in 1897, at Governor's Island through the good offices of the Hon. Ben. L.



First Avenue, looking south from Second Street.

Fairechild, then Congressman from this district.

An elaborate electric plant was installed at North Railroad avenue and Howard street, to supply the village with additional light. On the 10th of November was organized Golden Rod Council, No. 1,316, Royal Arcanum, with twenty-six members. It now has a membership of more than six hundred. Its present officers are: Regent, Stephen VanTassel; Vice-Regent, T. B. Graham; Orator, E. D. Duncan; Past Regent, H. K. Keller; Treasurer, Edward W. Storms; Chaplain, T. W. Robinson; Guide, A. A. Haring; Warden, T. W.



Fourth Avenue, looking north from Second Street.

Rose; Sentry, F. Grabofski; Secretary, A. W. Bertine; Collector, W. M. Rusehhaupt, and Medical Examiner, S. Oscar Myers, M. D.

1891. The Mount Vernon Turn Verein was formed. It has become a prosperous and popular organization, with a well-equipped club-house and hall at Tenth and Stevens avenues. On the 10th of October was incorporated the "Martha Wilson Home," and on the 24th of November following Miss Martha Wilson presented to the Board of Directors, in trust, a deed of the property at the corner of Franklin avenue and Union

Lane, comprising a plot of 180 by 205 feet, with a large house. Subsequently she purchased and presented an additional lot, making the frontage 205 feet. She also endowed the home to the amount of \$26,000. It is for the shelter and care of old ladies.

1892. This was an eventful year in local history. As early as 1890 there was discussed the proposition to secure a city charter for the then growing village of fifteen thousand inhabitants. It was thought to have outgrown its swaddling clothes, and to be fitted for the mature garb of cityhood. In the following year Messrs. George C. Appell, Edgar K. Brown and Milo J. White, aided and counselled by others, prepared an act of incorporation, which was submitted to the village officers and by them approved. It was presented to the Legislature in 1892, and on the 26th of February was favorably reported. In March an election was held in the room of the Board of Trustees to get an expression of public sentiment on the proposition. The vote was largely in favor of the bill, which was promptly enacted, and received the approval of Governor Flower on the 22d of that month.

The first election under the new charter was held on the 17th of May following, and the officers chosen were: Mayor, Edward F. Brush, M.D.; City Judge, George C. Appell; City Treasurer, Clarence S. McClellan; Receiver of Taxes, John



Fulton Avenue, looking north from Lincoln Avenue.

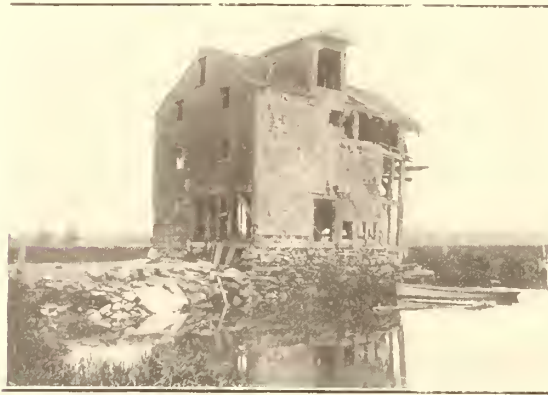
H. Brett; Justice of the Peace, William H. Bard; Supervisor, John Thurton; Assessors, John H. Cordes, Richard Seder, Chas. H. Weiss; Aldermen, Chas. F. Bruning, Gustavus Kessler, Theo. Taylor, Fred. Mager, William A. Anderson, David C. Curtis, Charles E. Johnson, Albert S. Jenks, Richard B. Cassebeer and Samuel J. Johnson.

Mayor Brush's appointees were: James P. Hayes, City Clerk; Frederick S. Odell, Commissioner of Public Works; Frank N. Glover, Counsel to the Corporation; Stuart B. Carlisle, M.D., Health Officer; Caleb S. Babcock, Commissioner of Charities; Jeremiah C. Foley, Chief of Police; J. N. Lockhart, Edson Lewis and Frank G. Bruce, Fire Commissioners. At the election four years later Adam E. Schatz succeeded George C. Appell as City Judge, and the former, at the expiration of his term, gave place to Frank A. Bennett. Tracks were laid and trolley cars run thereon between Mount Vernon and New York.

1893. In framing the city charter the old Union Free School districts of the town of East Chester were left undisturbed, hence there was no autonomy in the school system of the new city. In the winter of 1893 the writer prepared a bill providing for the consolidation of the several school districts, and authorizing the establishment of a high school. The bill was submitted to a committee composed of members

of the Common Council and representatives from the four school districts. In the conference a few changes were made which weakened rather than improved the measure; it was then sent to the Legislature, and was enacted in January, 1894.

Up to this time the trains of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. had run through the village and city at grade, the track crossings being protected by drop-bars. The original station was at the southwest corner of First street and Fourth avenue. When that became inadequate an unsightly brick building



Reads Mill.

was erected on the north side of First street, between Third and Fourth avenues, where it stood as an eyesore for many years. This year the Company depressed the tracks, putting iron bridges over them where necessary at street crossings. It also acquired the Burton property, extending from its tracks north to Prospect avenue, and from First to Third avenue. Thereon was built an attractive station surrounded by ample ground, and the monstrosity on First street was demolished. Land was also secured for a freight yard extending from First to Fulton avenue.

1894. In September was established the Mount Vernon



Seaton Falls.

High School as the result of permissive legislation. There was some opposition to the plan, as there always is to any measure, however meritorious. Several members of the Board of Education were either openly or covertly opposed to the project, and sought to delay its execution, but the preponderance of public sentiment was so manifestly in favor of educational progress that the obstructionists were forced to yield, and the school was opened in the Chester Hill school-house,

with Professor Abial B. Davis, one of the most accomplished educators in the State, as the principal.

There was a sentiment among some of the most prominent and influential citizens that Mount Vernon should be annexed to the city of New York. Other members of the community, equally well intentioned, opposed the plan. Public meetings were held and the question was discussed from all points of view. Finally it was submitted to the people for settlement, and a feeling of local pride led them to decide by a majority of 730 votes against union.

1897. A building for the use of the High School was erected at a cost of \$65,000. It is a suitable and well-equipped structure, located on the east side of Fourth avenue, north of Fourth street.

1898. Edwin J. Lucas erected a building extending from Third to Fourth avenue—two hundred feet—for the uses of the municipality, and upon its completion most of the two upper floors were occupied by the several departments of the city government. It is situated just north of the tracks of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R., and a street in front of it, known as Depot Place, was opened by Mr. Lucas and ceded to the city.

1901. The city acquired as a gift from Edward Hartley, for use as a public park, a plot of about five acres of land bounded by East Lincoln avenue, Crary avenue, North street and Fourth avenue. Some preliminary work has been done



Mt. Vernon Pumping Station N. Y. Inter-Urban Water Co.

upon the tract, and it is hoped in the near future to have it properly fitted for the purpose designed. A building used as a school and chapel on the Wartburg farm was totally destroyed by fire on the 29th of November. The estimated loss was 15,000. There was insurance to the amount of \$9,500.

1902. There was passed by both branches of the Legislature a bill authorizing the construction of a viaduct over the depression in Mount Vernon avenue, from about High street to the Yonker's line, crossing the tracks of the New York Central railroad, which runs through the city at grade. For some reason not clear to the projectors of the measure it was vetoed by Governor Odell, and the city was thus deprived of a needed improvement, and one that would have conduced to the safety of its people. The New York Infant Asylum, which had long been located on the White Plains road, south of the city line, closed its doors, removing the inmates to other institutions. The property, comprising about fifty acres, was bought by a syndicate with a view of development, and to be sold in lots for high-class residences. It is to be known as Alameda Park.

The affairs of the municipality were not conducted with-



HON. ISAAC N. MILLS

out some friction. The election of Mayor Edson Lewis in 1894 was contested by his opponent, Edwin W. Fiske, and after a protracted legal struggle, the final decision of the court was that Mayor Lewis had been elected by a majority of two votes. Two years later Mr. Fiske was again the Democratic candidate for mayor, and though the city had become strongly Republican, he was elected by a majority of more than five hundred votes. This result was considered an ex-



Central Hose Co. No. 4. Truck Co. No. 2

pression of public disapproval of the outcome of the previous election. Since then Mayor Fiske has been re-elected three consecutive times, though his last election, in 1891, was contested by ex-Mayor Edward F. Brush; but after several hearings and decisions upon the various separate issues raised by counsel on both sides, it was made manifest that Mayor Fiske's majority as shown by the returns could not be overcome, and the suit was dropped. In 1898, Mayor Fiske's



Clinton H. and L. Co. Niagara Hose Co.

active political opponents, disturbed by his repeated successes at the polls, sought to have him impeached for alleged misconduct in office. Elaborate charges prepared by astute counsel were presented to Governor Roosevelt, and by him referred to the Attorney General for an opinion. That officer reported that the charges were not such as to call for a further investigation, and that if sustained they would not be sufficiently grave to justify the Mayor's removal from

office. Three years later the Republican politicians framed and submitted to the Legislature—then strongly Republican—a bill to make Mayor Fiske ineligible for re-election—but public sentiment was so manifestly against the scheme that in January, 1901, at a hearing by the Senate Committee on Cities, Senator Mills announced that he withdrew the objectionable clause. Of the remaining features of the proposed act the most important was a provision to change the time for municipal elections from May to November. Though this, too, was a move wholly in the interest of the Republican party, it became a law, and the next charter election was deferred until November, 1901.

Early in 1902, Alderman James P. Hayes submitted to the Common Council a resolution, which was adopted by the Republican majority, directing an investigation of all the departments of the city government from the beginning of Mayor Fiske's administration. The resolution prescribed no limit as to time or cost. Accordingly, Samuel D. Patterson, an expert accountant, was employed; he hired several assistants, and the work began. Meantime the Mayor suggested that if it was intended to make the investigation thorough and non-partisan, it should cover the terms of his predecessors



Independent Hose Co. No. 2

sors in office as well as his own. A resolution to that effect was finally adopted.

As the work progressed with no definite result other than heavy drafts upon the city treasury, a feeling of public dissatisfaction was aroused; citizens, outside the office-holding or office-seeking class, protested against an expenditure which they deemed unnecessary and wasteful. So widespread became this sentiment that in December, Mark D. Stiles, chairman of the Republican city committee, took it upon himself to call a meeting of taxpayers to discuss the situation. There it was made known that the cost of the investigation was \$125 a day, and Joseph S. Wood, a clear-headed statistician and a large taxpayer, demonstrated that, based upon the time already consumed, the expense incurred and the results attained, the completion of the work would require seven years, and would cost \$250,000. Charles Bill Willson, also a large landowner, as well as a prominent Republican, was equally pronounced in his disapproval. Alderman Hayes could make no prediction as to the duration of the investigation, but thought the cost would not exceed \$30,000, and the only achievement he would promise was that we would "know where we were at." The meeting was not largely

attended, possibly it was not designed to be; but the promoters of the project were there in sufficient number to make it appear to be the sense of the gathering that the work should go on. Those whose financial interests were at stake, however, and who were not concerned in mere attempts to gain a partisan advantage, determined upon preventive measures, and on the 16th of the month Counsellor Milo J. White, acting for Richard M. Winfield, a large real estate holder, secured from Justice Maddox an order staying the investigation, pending a hearing, on the ground that the cost was excessive, and that no provision of the charter authorized the employment, or permitted the payment, of experts for such work. Copies of the order, returnable on the 20th of December, were served upon the Mayor, City Clerk, members of the Common Council and the chief accountant. On return day the hearing was postponed by consent until the 23d of December, when it was again postponed until the 26th. The case finally came before Judge Keogh, in New Rochelle, on

the 27th of December, when the injunction was vacated, and the plaintiff instructed his counsel to appeal.

Since the act of incorporation of 1892, each political party has, from time to time, when opportunity offered, secured charter amendments with the sole view of gaining a partisan advantage; the interests of the city and its people were minor considerations; it was partisanship gone mad, and there are indications of renewed activity in that direction. Optimists, however, hope for better things; they believe that in due time the madness of mere political strife in municipal government will subside; that there will be practically a new charter as a result of intelligent, public-spirited action and co-operation; that professional politicians will be relegated to the rear, and that conservative, independent citizens will see that Mount Vernon and its interests are saved from the machinations of those whose partisanship, of whatever kind exceeds their patriotism.





F. A. STRATTON,
Vice-President Westchester Lighting Co.

History of Mount Vernon

CHAPTER II.

NEWSPAPERS—BANKS.

On the 30th of September, 1854, appeared the Mount Vernon Gazette, published by Henry S. Hill and Egbert A. S. Manning. After six months Mr. Hill withdrew, and the paper was conducted by Mr. Manning until his death in February, 1857. A few months later the publication was suspended.



Washington Engine Co. No. 1

The Village News was started on the 27th of June, 1868, by A. W. McDonald and S. E. Holdredge. The former retired from the firm in a few months, and in January, 1869, the paper was changed to the Weekly Sentinel, with I. E. Ireland as editor, and on the 25th of September of that year it appeared as the Chronicle, with Chas. A. D. Meyerhoff as editor and proprietor. In the second number, however, the name of Joseph S. Wood was substituted as editor, with Mr. Meyerhoff as publisher. Mr. Wood personally conducted the paper with success until 1884, when its management passed into the hands of Daniel Lewis. On the 1st of June, 1893, T. Milton Taylor became the proprietor and editor, and conducted the paper until the 1st of September, 1898.

In January, 1879, was published the East Chester Independent, by David Brown & Co., and later by David C. Young. It gave up the ghost in July of the same year. The Mount Vernon Argus was first published on the 20th of March, 1879, by Sidebotham & Holdredge. The latter very soon thereafter disposed of his interest in the paper to William Wallace McClellan, and the new firm of Sidebotham & McClellan conducted the paper until the 1st of January, 1884, when Mr. McClellan became the sole proprietor. He sold the paper to Alvah P. French, of North Castle, and Henry O.

Sniffen, of White Plains, on the 1st of January, 1890. French & Sniffen published the paper until the 15th of April, 1895, when Mr. Sniffen sold his interest to Franklin A. Merriam; meantime, however, French & Sniffen had started the Daily Argus in connection with the weekly publication. On the 13th of August, 1901, Mr. French was succeeded by Mark D. Stiles, the firm becoming Stiles & Merriam, who are the present owners. The Argus had theretofore been an advocate of Democratic principles and policies; but under the new regime its political creed was changed, and it became a Republican newspaper of the most radical type, seeking to infuse a partisan spirit even into the minutiae of municipal affairs. Republican incumbency it regards as a benediction, a sacrosanct dispensation, while the domination of any other political party it believes is a menace to national and municipal life.

In 1884 Benjamin F. Ashley began the publication of the Westchester County Record. It was bought, in 1892, by the Record Association, and its name was changed to the Mount Vernon Record. On the 1st of September, 1898, the Chronicle was merged with the Record under a time limit contract, and the Chronicle-Record was continued under the editorial management of Col. W. J. Bryant until his death in July, 1900.

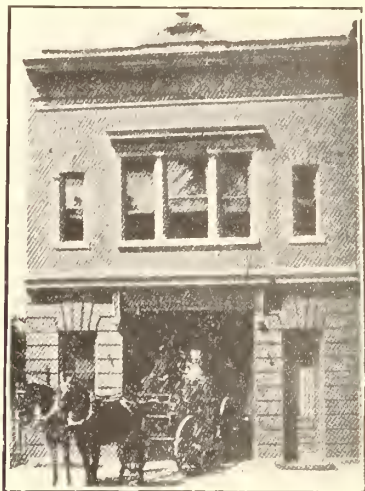


Protection Engine Co. No. 2

On the 1st of September, 1901, at the expiration of the contract, the Chronicle and Record parted company, the former going out of existence, and the latter continuing to be published from the establishment of the Daily Argus.

In June, 1891, Stephen J. Stillwell, a young lawyer, estab-

lished the Reformer. He conducted it vigorously and aggressively, and by tact and energy secured the city's advertising, which made his paper a valuable asset, so valuable indeed that in November, 1892, Mr. Stillwell sold his paper at a satisfactory price to the proprietor of the Chronicle, and the



Engine Co. No. 3

two papers were merged, the name Chronicle only being retained.

Mr. J. Armoyn Knox, who had been credited with making a success of "Texas Siftings," secured the financial co-operation of several citizens, and founded the Mount Vernon News, the first number appearing on the 4th of February, 1893. The paper was fairly successful, but its management did not prove satisfactory to those financially interested, and in about a year Mr. Knox withdrew. For several years thereafter the paper was conducted by various persons employed for the purpose until August, 1899, when the property was acquired by Henry C. Fordham, its present proprietor. On the 16th of April, 1900, appeared the first number of the Daily Eagle, started by Mr. Fordham as an adjunct to the News, and the Eagle is now one of the city's official newspapers.

The Sentinel, a daily newspaper, owned and edited by ex-Mayor Edward F. Brush, made its first appearance on the 16th of January, 1895. It was, and continued during its career to be, a notable exposition of tart editorial criticism. While Republican in politics, it was not offensively partisan, and did not contend that the Republican party had a monopoly of virtues, or that its political opponents had a corner in vices. It was sane. The papers were readily sold and eagerly read, and the venture should have been successful; but the owner was actively engaged in other business, the paper being merely a side issue; he had no journalistic experience, and was obliged to rely upon subordinates to manage the details of his publication. As a result the outgo largely exceeded the income, and it proved a costly experiment. The genial Doctor knew when he had enough, and he quit the game, the last issue of his paper being that of the 26th of August, 1896.

The Republican, ostensibly published by David C. Young, but issued from the office of the News, appeared in 1900. It was established as a political scheme designed to secure from the Common Council the city advertising, to the discomfiture of the Record, which, as a Republican newspaper, then had its share of that patronage. For two years the Republican gathered in the shekels upon which the Record had mainly relied for support, when a new distribution by the Common

Council turned the life-giving stream in other directions. Thereupon, the Republican, having nothing to live for, quietly passed away.

BANKS.

In 1868 was chartered the East Chester National Bank, with a capital of \$250,000. Its officers were William M. Tweed, of New York, President; Cornelius Corson, Vice-President; Henry S. Murray, Cashier. It was located in the Washington Hotel building, in Fourth avenue below First street. The subsequent disastrous collapse of Mr. Tweed's political and financial career necessitated a change in the management of the bank, and in 1874 the stock was sold out to Mason, Cox & Smith, New York bankers, who a year later wound up its affairs and closed its doors.

By act of the Legislature in 1871, the East Chester Savings Bank was established. Its business was conducted in Washington Hall, and John M. Masterton was its first president. It is still in successful operation, and Joseph S. Clark is President.

John M. Masterton, Philip Lucas, Jr., and William T. Pemberton organized a private banking house in 1874, under the firm name of John M. Masterton & Co. The establishment was in VanCourt's building, Fourth avenue below First street, and later in the Berry building. In a few years Mr. Pemberton withdrew, and in 1884 the firm made an assignment and the business was closed.

The Bank of Mount Vernon was started in 1885, with a capital of \$25,000. The officers were Gouverneur Rogers, President; Henry C. Smith, Vice-President, and Jesse Lantz, Cashier. It conducted business in the Berry building until the completion and occupancy of its present building, in 1890. Minott C. Kellogg is now President, D. W. Whitmore, Vice-President, and Jesse Lantz, Cashier. Capital and surplus, \$135,000. It is being reorganized.

There was organized in 1889, and opened for business on the 24th of November in that year, The Peoples' Bank, with Henry C. Smith as President, and George E. Archer as Cashier. Its capital was \$50,000. It became a national bank on the



Columbia Hose No. 5

1st of April, 1900, with the title of the First National Bank of Mount Vernon. Clarence S. McClellan is President, Thomas R. Hodge, Vice-President, and Theodore F. Nesbitt, Cashier. It has recently added a savings department to its facilities. Capital and surplus, \$150,000.



MARK D. STILES.

CHAPTER III.

CHURCHES—CLUBS.

On South Columbus avenue, east of Third avenue, stands old St. Paul's, and there it has stood a hundred and twenty-eight years, surrounded by its three and a half acres of church-yard, in which repose more than six thousand bodies.

That the settlers of East Chester had in mind their spiritual needs is shown by the articles of agreement among them in 1665, wherein their purpose is announced to "give new

order after Mr. Brewster's withdrawal. A reminder of the Rev. Morgan Jones' incumbency is this extract from the town minutes: "Thes are to Certifie whom it may concern that Richard Saniey and Ann Canie weare Lawfully married the 28th day of December 1685 By me Morgen Joans, ²menester of the gospell."

In 1692 it was determined to build a church, though the



Church of Our Lady of Victory, R. C.
St. Paul's German Lutheran Church

First Presbyterian Church
Dutch Reformed Church

encouragement to Mr. Brewster each other week to give us a word of exhortation, and that when we are settled we meet together every other week one hour, to talk of the best things." The Rev. Nathaniel Brewster, then serving in Westchester, thereupon assumed charge of, and for several years looked after, the religious welfare of East Chester. The Rev. Ezekiel Fogge, the Rev. Warham Mather, the Rev. Morgan Jones and the Rev. Samuel Goding, succeeded in their

project was not consummated until eight years later, and the Rev. Joseph Morgan was placed in charge. The building, erected on the "Green," was of frame, twenty eight feet square and about eighteen feet to the eaves, the sides as well as the roof being shingled. The interior was wainscotted and had a gallery. Mr. Morgan served seven or eight years, when he was succeeded by the Rev. John Bartow. The latter, in 1727, gave place to the Rev. Thomas Standard, who ministered

in the different congregations of his parish for thirty-three years. In February, 1761, came the Rev. John Milner, followed in 1766 by the Rev. Samuel Seabury.

In 1764, the old building having been used more than sixty years, being much decayed and very cold in winter, the foundation of a new church was laid, the work upon which was continued until the building was enclosed, when it was suspended, and the church was not finished until 1775. Services were maintained in the old building until 1776, when it was taken down and consumed as fuel in the new church, then in use as a British hospital. It was not until four years after the war that services were resumed in the church, it having been used meantime as a court-house. The Rev. Elias Cooper was in charge of the parish from 1789 to 1801. In

Among the bodies resting in the churchyard are: Comfort Sands, a member of the Provincial Congress in 1775, for five years auditor-general of accounts in the American army, President of the New York Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Assembly for several years; Capt. Jonathan Fowler, of the French war, and his son, Capt. Theodosius Fowler of Revolutionary fame; Major George W. Prevost, of the British army; Philip Pell, Judge-Advocate of the American army, and his brother, Major Samuel Pell.

St. Paul's parish was a district seven miles long, in the southern part of which was the area that subsequently became the village of Mount Vernon. In June, 1851, two years before the incorporation of the village, the Rev. Mr. Duncan, with a view of supplying the needs of the new settlement,



First Methodist Episcopal Church
Trinity Church, Episcopal



First Baptist Church
Church of the Sacred Heart, R. C.

October, 1795, the parish, which had been organized in 1787 under the general act of 1784, was re-incorporated under the provisions of the act for the relief of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State. It then first took the name of St. Paul's. There came to it in turn the following rectors: The Rev. Isaac Wilkins, the Rev. Ravaud Kearney, the Rev. Lewis P. Bayard, the Rev. Lawson Carter, the Rev. John Grigg, the Rev. Robert Bolton, the Rev. Edwin Harwood and the Rev. Henry E. Duncan in 1847. The church has been described as a building "remarkable for the character of its masonry, the angles being ornamented with rustic quoins; the windows and doors also have rustics. At the west end is a square tower of three stages with narrow lights terminating in an octagonal lantern containing a bell on which is inscribed: 'Gift of Rev. Thomas Standard, 1758.'"

held evening prayer at the house of Samson Valentine, near Hunt's bridge. In February, 1852, the Rev. William S. Coffey succeeded Mr. Duncan as the incumbent of St. Paul's, and in June of that year he began a series of services in the school-house at Scott's bridge, which after an interruption were resumed in 1854 at the office of Pelham L. McClellan, and continued later in a building at the corner of First street and Fifth avenue.

On the 21st of October, 1856, was formally organized a new parish by the name of "The Rector, Churchwardens and Vestrymen of Trinity Church, Mount Vernon, in the town of East Chester." Richard Baldwin and George O. Street were the first wardens. The meetings were held in Journeau's Hall, at Fifth avenue and Fourth street. Four thousand dollars were raised as the nucleus of a building fund, and three quar-



JOSEPH AGATE HOUSE, M.D.

ter-acre lots, in Fourth avenue, between Fourth and Fifth streets, were given by Richard Atkinson, George O. Street and Samuel T. Jennings. The corner-stone of the parish church was laid on the 24th of November, 1857, and the church was used for evening prayer on Christmas day, 1859. The Rev. Mr. Coffey continued in charge, in connection with his duties at St. Paul's, until 1873, when he was relieved by the Rev. Clarence Buel, and the latter was succeeded by the Rev. William B. Hooper. The Rev. Stephen F. Holmes followed Mr. Hooper in 1878, and served until the early nineties. Upon his withdrawal no successor was immediately appointed, though services were continued by "supplies" until the 3d of May, 1893, when the present rector, the Rev. S. T. Graham, assumed charge of the parish. Since then about \$18,000 have

been raised and expended on the church property, in finishing the parish house, in building a rectory, redecorating the church and supplying a new organ. The east corner of Park and Sidney avenues, and is an attractive structure. On the 14th of March, 1897, a beautiful marble altar and reredos was consecrated. It was the gift of Mr. E. B. Wesley in memory of his wife, on behalf of his daughters, Mrs. Charles A. Breck and Mrs. Joanna C. Parsons. In 1899 a chancel window of "The Ascension" was presented by Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Van Schaick in memory of their daughter. More than six hundred parishioners testify to the rapid growth of the parish under the ministrations of the popular rector.

Early in 1852, Father Eugene McGuire, a priest of the Roman Church in Westchester, ministered to those of his faith in Mount Vernon, the first mass being celebrated in a barn near the corner of Fourth avenue and Fifth street, and subsequently in the house of Peter O'Connor at the corner of



Swedish M. E. Church



German M. L. Church

First Congregational Church
South Ninth Avenue, South from Fourth Street

been raised and expended on the church property, in finishing the parish house, in building a rectory, redecorating the church and supplying a new organ.

The parish of the Church of the Ascension was incorporated on the 26th of May, 1890. In October of the same year the Rev. Francis M. S. Taylor, M.A., was called to assume charge, and entered upon the work, which he still carries on with great success. The services were originally held in a building, formerly a Swedenborgian church, hired for the purpose. As the movement gained strength, property was acquired and plans were formed for the building of a church. A design for the proposed edifice was prepared and adopted; the corner-stone was laid on the 14th of May, 1896, and the opening service was held in the new church on the 6th of December in the same year. The building is at the north-

Third avenue and Fifth street. Father O'Reilly, who succeeded Father McGuire in Westchester, continued these visitations. About the same time Father Joseph Baldoff was sent from New York to officiate for the German settlers, which he did until his death a few years later. In 1859, Father Kinsella, of Westchester, took charge of this movement, and determined upon the erection of a church. Lot 366, at the corner of Fifth avenue and Second street, was bought for \$235, and thereon was placed a plain wooden structure, which was designated St. Matthew's. It was afterward enlarged, and continued to be used for many years. In 1878 it was removed to give place to the present Sacred Heart Church, a substantial and striking edifice, of which Father E. J. Flynn is the priest in charge. It has recently been redecorated and fitted with stained glass windows of unusual

artistic excellence. Connected with the church is a largely attended parish school. Several additional churches of the Roman communion have since been built.

The first services of the Methodist Society were held in various private houses by the Rev. Daniel DeVinne, then in charge of the Methodist church in East Chester, and later in a room over Mr. Wisdom's shop, in Third avenue between First and Second streets. In 1852 the society was organized, and was incorporated on the 6th of March, 1854, with the title of First Methodist Episcopal Church in Mount Vernon. It now owns and occupies a fine structure at the corner of Eighth avenue and Second street, with the Rev. George C. Peck as pastor. He is an eloquent preacher and a genial man.

In July, 1897, a meeting was held at the home of Dr.

Wisdom's building, and afterward in Journeau's Hall, at Fifth avenue and Fourth street. A meeting to form a society was held on Sunday, the 24th of April, 1853, and on the 11th of May following, at the house of John Buskirk, eighteen members organized themselves into a Baptist church, and on the 26th of December in that year called the first pastor, the Rev. Joseph Burnett. The church was incorporated on the 17th of August, 1854, as "The Trustees of the Baptist Church of the village of Mount Vernon, town of East Chester, county of Westchester." In January, 1854, it was determined to build a church, the corner-stone of which was laid on the 27th of March in that year upon a lot in Fourth avenue between Third and Fourth streets. The church was dedicated on Christmas day, 1855. For thirty-two years the congrega-



Swedish Lutheran Church
Universalist Church

St. Johannes Evangelical
Congregational Chapel, Vernon Park

Thomas A. Fletcher, in East Lincoln avenue, to discuss the advisability of establishing a Methodist church in the Chester Hill district. At a subsequent meeting, in September of the same year, it was decided to build a temporary structure on a lot owned by Dr. Fletcher on Summit avenue, the use of which he tendered free of cost for one year. The temporary building was erected, and the first service was held therein on the 18th of March, 1898, the sermon being preached by Dr. George P. Mains. As the final outcome of that movement, the society has now an elaborate church, costing more than \$70,000, at the corner of East Lincoln and Summit avenues. The corner-stone was laid on the 28th of July, 1900, and the church was dedicated on the 19th of May, 1901.

The Baptists held their first meetings in Mount Vernon in

tion occupied the building; then a lot was bought at the corner of Second avenue and Second street, where ground was at once broken for the building of a new church, the corner-stone of which was laid on the 3d of September, 1887. It was finished and dedicated on the 1st of June, 1888. The Rev. William A. Granger is the pastor.

The Reformed Church of Mount Vernon was established in May, 1853, with a membership of fourteen persons, and was incorporated in November of that year, with the Rev. Mr. Snyder as pastor. A frame building was soon erected and used until the present church in South Fifth avenue was built in 1872. The Rev. Charles H. Tyndall is the pastor in charge, and his repute has added to the church membership.

On the 12th of February, 1855, the Universalist Society



MERWIN E. GENUNG.

of Mount Vernon was incorporated. The first services were held by the Rev. Henry Lyon in a second-story room of Central Hall, at the corner of Third avenue and Fourth street. The next year a church building was erected, and dedicated on the 23d of September.

In March, 1858, the Lutherans established themselves in the upper room of the building at the corner of Fifth avenue and First street, under the ministration of the Rev. Herman Boeringer. They subsequently removed to a meeting place in Bleecker street, where the Rev. J. H. Baden served them for six years. Their present church, St. Paul's, in Seventh avenue, near First street, was dedicated on the 12th of January,

formally organized with seventy-three members. The cornerstone of the present church in Sixth avenue was laid in December, 1889, and the finished structure was dedicated on the 8th of December, 1890. Its cost was \$62,000, and \$5,000 have since been expended in improvement and decoration. The church is without debt, and has a membership of more than six hundred. The pastor, Rev. Charles S. Lane, has been in charge fifteen years. The Missionary Pastor is the Rev. Llewellyn J. Davies, Tsingtau, China.

The First Congregational Church of Mount Vernon was organized on the 8th of June, 1892, under the leadership of a provisional committee, the Rev. W. T. Stokes, Superin-



English Lutheran Church. North M. E. Church. St. Marys Church, R. C.
Church of the Ascension, Episcopal

1877. It has at the moment no regular pastor. There are at least two other branches of the Lutheran Church that have since been established.

As the result of a meeting held on the 26th of May, 1887, a petition was presented to the Presbytery of Westchester for the establishment of a church in Mount Vernon. The first session of the Sunday school was held three days later in G. A. R. Hall. The next week Union Hall was hired, and the first devotional meeting was held there on the 2d of June. The first preaching service, conducted by the Rev. Charles E. Lindsley, of New Rochelle, was on Sunday, the 12th of June. The petition to the Presbytery was granted on the 21st of June, and two days later the First Presbyterian Church was

tendent of the Congregational Home Missionary Society for New York City and vicinity, receiving the candidates for membership. The Rev. J. D. Belknap served three months as stated supply. The Rev. Lewin F. Buell became the first pastor in October, 1892, serving until April, 1898. The church was located at Mount Vernon avenue and High street, but in July, 1893, a site having been purchased at the corner of Ninth avenue and Valentine street, and a portable building placed thereon, the church entered upon its new possession. The building was dedicated on the 10th of November in the same year. The church became self-sustaining in 1896. In 1898 Mr. Buell accepted a call to Syracuse, and he was succeeded by the Rev. Charles S. Brooks of Boston Mass. The

latter was obliged to resign, because of ill health, after a few months' service, and the Rev. Owen R. Lovejoy, of Michigan, was called to the pastorate. He was installed in November, 1899, and is still in charge. The church has a membership of 235, and is prospering in all ways.

The Vernon Heights Congregational Church, in South Columbus avenue, is the outcome of the energetic labor of a few citizens, among them being G. C. Johns, Albert A. Uleht,



Chester Hill M. E. Church.

Walter C. Reid and Thomas Beattie. After ten years or more of untiring effort, a successful church, free from debt, is in operation, with the Rev. R. J. Goddard as the pastor.

Other religious bodies have been organized, and are doing effective work in their respective fields.

CLUBS.

The local social organizations are numerous. Of many of them there is no public record; their existence being known only to the members. Of those which have acquired prominence by reason of their extended sphere of activity, through public entertainments, or by the discussion of civic problems, may be mentioned the City Club, of which ex-Mayor Dr. Edward F. Brush is President; William A. Anderson, Vice-President; Albert F. Geschidt, Jr., Secretary, and Max Parpart, Treasurer. The Club was organized in 1895, and has 108 members who occupy a well-equipped club house, built for them, in Prospect avenue adjoining the Post Office. It has been the scene of many convivial gatherings, at which all the good things of life designed to satisfy the inner man were lavishly dispensed by hospitable hosts; and they who were the fortunate guests on any of these festive occasions might have accounted for their perfectly decorous, though perhaps unwonted hilarity, by asserting that

"'Tis the plump grape's immortal juice
That does this happiness produce."

The Siwanoy Country Club, organized in May, 1901, is in a flourishing condition, with a membership of two hundred. The officers are: Dr. A. M. Campbell, President; Glenn Ford McKinney, Vice-President; Harold M. Wilcox, Secretary, and A. D. Stone, Treasurer. The Club has a suitable house with extensive grounds, the old Glover homestead, just beyond Sageman's corners. There are golf links, tennis courts, and other facilities for recreation and enjoyment, and the Club's occasional entertainments are notable features of social life.

The Westchester Woman's Club is a noteworthy organization; noteworthy because it exemplifies what may be accomplished by bright, energetic women on lines that are commonly regarded as outside their purview. The Club was organized in 1894, and incorporated in 1896 with sixty-five charter members. The first President was Martha F. Gay, and she was followed in due course by Estelle R. McVickar, Leslie A. McLean and Emma C. Davis. The present officers are: Harriet M. Rathbun, President; Susy E. Wood, 1st Vice-President; Mary D. Sherman, 2d Vice-President; May C. McLaurin, Recording Secretary; Jessie M. Strong, Corresponding Secretary, and M. Ellen D. Zerfass, Treasurer. The membership is two hundred and thirty. The club motto, taken from St. Augustine, is, "In essential things unity, in doubtful things, liberty, in all things charity." Its objects are, "to form a recognized center for social and mental culture; to further the education of women for the responsibilities of life; to encourage all movements for the betterment of society, and to foster a generous spirit in the community."

The better to attain the objects set forth in this sonorous, but rather formidable prospectus, the work has been divided into sections devoted respectively to History, Philanthropy, Sociology, Literature, Domestic Science, Education, Art and Music. It is obvious that the scope of these enterprising women is nothing if not comprehensive. Their meetings, held in Willard Hall, are occasionally open to the public, and are entertaining and instructive; but if a "mere man" can gain access to one of their informal gatherings, he can not help being impressed by the fact that they who



Republican Club, Mt. Vernon.

surround him are not types of the "new woman," they are womanly women, who, besides being well bred and well gownned have cultivated intellects, and discourse pleasantly and intelligently upon civic and economic problems. While their theses may not, possibly, be classed as profound expositions of the subjects of which they treat, they are graceful, scholarly compositions, and indicate an unsuspected capacity for comprehending conditions with which the writers have but



MILTON RATHBUN.

limited opportunities to become familiar. This tribute to their alertness is the more merited because a recent critic of facetious turn has asserted that men are more logical than women; but he hastens to mitigate the righteous indignation of the maligned sex by adding, "they are also more zoological. Both men and women sprang from monkeys; but the women certainly sprang farther than the men."

On the 30th of December, 1899, was organized the Commercial Traveler's Club. It has now a membership of a hundred and twenty-five. The President is Charles A. Tilly; the Vice-President is W. F. Chambers, with Louis H. Kronfeld as Secretary and Treasurer. The idea of establishing the club originated with Fire Commissioner Kronfeld. With him to conceive is to execute; hence in an incredibly short time he had gathered about him a group of enthusiastic travelers who now, as opportunity offers, take solid comfort in their attractive quarters in the Ferguson building. A billiard table, a piano, and other recreative equipage, contribute to their enjoyment. They have occasional entertainments in the winter, and a popular outing in the summer, all of which have extended their name and fame beyond the limits of their fraternal circle.

The Westchester County Wheelmen comprise about a hundred and fifty riders of the silent steed. They have a well-appointed club house at Seventh avenue and Fourth street. The club was organized on the 21st of January, 1898, and its officers are: Clarence L. Howland, President; F. W. Shipman, Vice-President; F. H. Southard, Secretary, and J. G. LePage, Treasurer. The club runs are enjoyable affairs for those sufficiently robust to take the pace. Frequent entertainments or "smokers" are given, invitations to which are eagerly sought. The club is one of the recognized institutions of the city.

The Mount Vernon Catholic Literary Society, a recent organization, is composed of young men who meet frequently in their rooms, No. 26 West Sidney avenue, to discuss topics of current interest. The originator of the movement was Mr. Maurice J. Sullivan, whose idea was to aid in the increase and diffusion of knowledge concerning affairs, whether at home or abroad, that are commanding public attention; to keep in touch with the best thought of the day as expressed by political economists, statesmen and essayists of established reputation. The officers are: President, Geo. G. Gerits; Vice-President, Jacob L. Haag; Secretary, Edward A. Gromiller; Treasurer, Fred. A. Dumphroff; Librarian, J. Leo. McLaughlin; Managers, Wm. V. Aspenleiter and Herman Shanz with the foregoing officers. It bids fair to take high rank as an educational factor in the community.

The dominant political sentiment finds expression in the symposia of the Republican Club, an organization comprising a hundred and fifty members, of which Charles H. Lovett is President; Henry H. Boyce, J. Mortimer Bell, Thos. A. McKennell, Henry Rudolph, Jr., and James K. Fuller, Vice-Presidents; Edwin A. Horn, Secretary, and Edward F. Brush, M.D., Treasurer.

The club was organized on the 8th of February, 1902, and was incorporated on the 7th of June in the same year. It aims "to advocate, promote and maintain the principles

of Republicanism enunciated by the Republican party, to direct and interest in politics those who have been hitherto more or less indifferent in their political duties; to encourage attendance at the primary meetings, in order that honest and capable men may be nominated; to guard and defend the purity of the ballot box; to recommend and endorse candidates for public office; to promote the cause of good government in the city of Mount Vernon; to promote social intercourse among its members, and to perform such other work as may best conserve the interests of the Republican party."

It will be seen that this schedule of prospective performances bristles with alluring possibilities; it contemplates the upbuilding of a political Utopia wherein the beneficent influences of stalwart Republicanism will make life one grand, sweet song. This is as it should be; and one familiar with the surroundings has but to read the foregoing list of officers to recognize their ability to undertake, at least tentatively, the execution of the design, especially when aided by the following trustees: Herbert T. Jennings, Frank M. Tichenor, Charles Hill Willson, James M. Lockhart, Hon. Isaac N. Mills, Edward F. Brush, M.D., Theodore Taylor, James P. Hayes, Geo. H. Lawrence, Mark D. Stiles, Jesse E. Holdredge, Frank P. Crasto, Frederick W. Clark, Abraham J. Light and James V. Simpson. Should this combination fail to accomplish all that is hoped for, they may draw inspiration and wisdom for the further pursuit of the ideal from this Executive Committee: William McGonigle, George W. Perkins, Francis J. Cogswell, James W. Kelly, William Archer, Jarvis W. Mason, J. A. Zimmermann, Wm. A. Anderson, J. H. Whittle, Adolph W. Wallander, Herman Petri, John W. Waters, Alex. L. Hirschberg, Allen W. Reynolds and Wm. C. Mains.

The club occupies the house in Prospect avenue formerly the headquarters of the Mount Vernon Cycle Club. A provision in its certificate of incorporation is that "no intoxicating liquors shall be sold within its club house," which is more or less commendable according to the point of view.*

There is also an organization known as the Women's Republican Club, which is probably theoretical rather than practical, inasmuch as women without the franchise are not likely to become conspicuous political factors; and even with the ballot, it is believed that not very many of them—certainly not of the cultivated class—would care to invade the domain of practical politics.

The Democrats, probably because of their being apparently in a hopeless minority, have been unable to maintain a general club, though an effort to that end was made several years ago with only temporary success. In the fourth ward, where the Democratic sentiment is strongest, there has been recently formed an organization styled the Thomas Jefferson Democratic Club, whose sphere of activity has thus far been confined to the ward. It has already given indications of an aggressive spirit that may eventually make it an important figure in municipal politics, unless lack of nourishment should cause anaemia. It has a hundred and seventy-five members, and is officered as follows: President, Fred. Bellesheim; Vice-President, Owen J. McCaffrey; Secretary, John Hinkelbein, and Treasurer, Sam. Johnson. The club rooms are at No. 159 West Lincoln avenue.

* Since this was written the Club has vacated its house, and has, at least temporarily, suspended its functions.



History of Mount Vernon

CHAPTER IV.

ARCHITECTURE—GOVERNMENT—SUMMARY.

There are more than four thousand residences. Those built in the twenty-five years following the settlement were modest, unpretentious dwellings, such as are common to the average village. About 1876 there was a manifest tendency towards the ornate; homes were built from plans prepared by competent architects instead of being constructed after the crude ideas of village carpenters; and ten or twelve years later the plain, though comfortable dwellings of the early days were rendered more inconspicuous by the elaborate and costly houses that sprung up on every side.



GEORGE O. BEACH.

The first brick building erected in the village, in 1861, for Mr. Hitchcock, still stands at the southwest corner of Third street and Third avenue. Since then, what a change! In the business section brick buildings are the rule; indeed, a wooden structure cannot now be erected within certain fire limits; and as a frame building in that quarter becomes inadequate for its purpose, and is removed, it must be replaced by one of brick.

There are no "palatial residences," such as flaunt themselves obtrusively at Newport, and other "swell" places, nor are there parvenues to necessitate them; but there are beau-

tiful homes, artistically designed and honestly constructed, having every convenience and comfort that a refined family could desire. Hot water or steam heat; marble or porcelain baths; choice selected woods; marquetry floors and tapestried walls are included in the designs for most of our modern houses. To specify any one or two, or a half dozen, would be to do injustice to as many more equally deserving of note; and space will not permit the description of the numerous handsome residences that adorn the city, and to which additions are being constantly made.

GOVERNMENT.

The first election for village officers was held on the 7th of March, 1854, and the result of that and the subsequent elections, both of the village and city, is here given:

PRESIDENTS.

Appointed each year by the Board of Trustees:

- | | | |
|-------|------------|---|
| 1854. | March | Joseph S. Gregory, M.D. |
| 1854. | July | Thos. Jones, in place of Jos. S. Gregory, resigned. |
| 1855. | March 21st | Cornelius A. Cooper. |
| 1856. | " | 18th Richard Atkinson. |
| 1857. | " | 17th Richard Atkinson. |
| 1858. | " | 16th George L. Baxter. |
| 1859. | " | 15th John B. Brennan. |
| 1860. | " | 20th Richard Atkinson. |
| 1861. | " | 28th John Stevens. |
| 1862. | " | 18th Richard Atkinson. |
| 1863. | " | 17th David Quackinbush. |

Elected at annual election under amended charter for the term of one year:

- | | | |
|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1863. | May 26th | David Quackinbush. |
| 1864. | " | 31st David Quackinbush. |
| 1865. | " | 30th William H. Pemberton. |
| 1866. | " | 29th William H. Pemberton. |
| 1867. | " | 28th William H. Pemberton. |
| 1868. | " | 26th William H. Pemberton. |
| 1869. | " | 25th Edward Martin. |

Elected under amended charter for the term of two years:

- | | | |
|-------|----------|--------------------------|
| 1870. | May 17th | Edward Martin. |
| 1872. | " | 21st Edward Martin. |
| 1874. | " | 19th Azro Fowler. |
| 1876. | " | 16th George R. Crawford. |
| 1878. | " | 21st David Quackinbush. |
| 1880. | " | 19th Henry Huss. |
| 1882. | " | 16th John Van Santvoord. |
| 1884. | " | 20th William J. Collins. |
| 1886. | " | 18th Jared Sandford. |
| 1888. | " | 15th David Quackinbush. |
| 1890. | " | 20th Jared Sandford. |



ROLLAND B. ARCHER.

The Presidents of the village of West Mount Vernon prior to its incorporation had been: Christian Ross, Joseph Belle-sheim, Horace Loomis and John Van Santvoord.

MAJORS.

Elected for two years under the city charter of 1892:

1892. May 17th Edward F. Brush, M.D.

1894. " 15th Edson Lewis.

1896. " 19th Edwin W. Fiske.

1898. " 17th Edwin W. Fiske.

1900. " 15th Edwin W. Fiske.

Elected under the amended charter by which the municipal election was held in November instead of in May as heretofore:

1901. Nov. 5th Edwin W. Fiske.

TRUSTEES.

Elected Annually.

March, 1854.

Stephen Bogart, John B. Brennan, William Saxton, Thos. Jones and Jos. S. Gregory.

March, 1855.

Cornelius A. Cooper, Richard Atkinson, William Saxton, Joseph V. Marsh and John Q. A. Butler.

March, 1856.

Cornelius A. Cooper, Richard Atkinson, Joseph V. Marsh, Drake P. Todd and Samuel T. Jennings.

March, 1857.

Richard Atkinson, Samuel B. Wilcox, Edward J. Small, George L. Baxter and Henry Lohman.

March, 1858.

Robert G. Hatfield, George L. Baxter, Henry Lohman, Samuel B. Wilcox and John B. Brennan.

March, 1859.

Robert G. Hatfield, John B. Brennan, George L. Baxter, William Saxton and Richard Atkinson.

March, 1860.

William H. Dusenbury, Henry Lohman, John Stevens, Richard Atkinson and Samuel T. Jennings.

March, 1861.

John Stevens, Richard Atkinson, Samuel T. Jennings, Henry Lohman and David Quackinbush.

March, 1862.

Richard Atkinson, Henry Lohman, David Quackinbush and Edmund Hoole.

March, 1863.

David Quackinbush, William H. Pemberton, Henry Lohman and Gilbert W. Barnes.

26th May, 1863.

For three years.

William Braidwood, Michael B. May.

For two years.

Gilbert W. Barnes, Samuel S. Moore.

For one year.

Edmund Hoole, James Taylor.

31st May, 1864.

Edmund Hoole, James Taylor.

30th May, 1865.

Stephen Bogart, John Stevens, and I. Edward Ireland to fill a vacancy.

29th May, 1866.

Michael B. May, Anthony Bennett, and Robert J. Law to fill a vacancy.

28th May, 1867.

David Quackinbush, John H. Johnston.

26th May, 1868.

James M. Chichester, R. J. Wheeler.

25th May, 1869.

For three years.

Anthony Baylis, Aaron R. Haight.

For two years.

Philip Lucas, Jr., Charles E. Raymond.

For one year.

Gilbert W. Barnes, Jacob Beidlingmeyer.

17th May, 1870.

George R. Crawford, Wm. P. Esterbrook.

16th May, 1871.

For three years.

Charles E. Raymond, Philip Lucas, Jr.

For one year.

Azro Fowler.

21st May, 1872.

For three years.

Anthony Baylis, Azro Fowler.

For one year.

William Braidwood.

20th May, 1873.

George R. Crawford, Jacob Jaeger.

19th May, 1874.

William P. Esterbrook, Beckman Van Gaasbeck.

18th May, 1875.

David Quackinbush, Gideon D. Pond.

16th May, 1876.

Charles E. Raymond, Jarvis C. Howard.

15th May, 1877.

William P. Esterbrook, Henry Huss.

21st May, 1878.

Gideon D. Pond, Oliver Dyer, and Jos. S. Clark to fill a vacancy.

21st May, 1879.

1st ward, James O. Hunt.

2d " William J. Collins.

3d " Thomas H. Horton.

4th " Frederick W. Weiss.

19th May, 1880.

1st ward, Simon M. Saunders.

2d " Joseph S. Clark.

3d " Marvin B. Palmer.

4th " Horace Loomis.

17th May, 1881.

1st ward, Gideon D. Pond.

2d " William M. Denman and Alfred Cooley.

3d " George W. Le Roy.

4th " Jeremiah J. Moore.

16th May, 1882.

1st ward, John L. Piper.

2d " William J. Collins.

3d " George C. Appell.

4th " Horace Loomis.

15th May, 1883.

1st ward, Gideon D. Pond.

2d " William W. McClellan.

3d " George W. Le Roy.

4th " Otto Hufeland.

20th May, 1884.

1st ward, James G. Minard.

2d " William Emmeluth.

3d " Herman Sternhagen.

4th " James N. Lockhart.

19th May, 1885.

- 1st ward, William R. Lewis.
- 2d " James L. Warren.
- 3d " William W. McClellan.
- 4th " Theophile Euphrat.

18th May, 1886.

- 1st ward, Fred. Mager.
- 2d " William H. Van Arsdale.
- 3d " Herman Sternhagen.
- 4th " George C. Appell.

17th May, 1887.

- 1st ward, David C. Curtis.
- 2d " Charles C. Bigelow.
- 3d " Samuel Crawford.
- 4th " Henry Esser.
- 5th " Wm. W. McClellan, 2 years.
- " Edw. S. Newell, 1 year.

15th May, 1888.

- 1st ward, Norman A. Lawlor.
- 2d " Edward A. Howland.
- 3d " William J. Fee.
- 4th " George C. Appell.
- 5th " Samuel Bernstein.

21st May, 1889.

- 1st ward, Bartholomew McGrane.
- 2d " Edwin W. Fiske.
- 3d " William Archer.
- 4th " William H. Ferris.
- 5th " William W. McClellan.

January, 1890.

Edward S. Newell was appointed to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of William W. McClellan.

20th May, 1890.

- 1st ward, Frederick Earl.
- 2d " Edward A. Howland,
- Clarence S. McClellan,
- 1 year to fill vacancy.
- 3d " Albert F. Gescheidt.
- 4th " George C. Appell.
- Frederick Johnson,
- 1 year to fill vacancy.
- 5th " Robert W. Macgowan.
- Chas. M. Moseman,
- 1 year to fill vacancy.

19th May, 1891.

- 1st ward, W. L. Toumine.
- 2d " William A. Anderson.
- 3d " Louis N. Smith.
- 4th " Henry Wilken.
- 5th " Edgar K. Brown.

The Village Clerks had been, in their order, Pelham L. McClellan, W. P. Sleight, Charles T. Hathaway, George Stevens, James H. Jenkins and William L. Milligan. By operation of the incorporating act, which went into effect on the 22d of March, 1892, Jared Sandford became the first Mayor of the city, and Wm. L. Milligan, the first City Clerk, both having been village officers.

ALDERMEN.

Elected, 17th May, 1892.

- 1st ward, Charles F. Bruning.
- Gustavus Kessler.
- 2d " Theodore Taylor.
- Fred Mager.

- 3d ward William A. Anderson.
- David C. Curtis.
- 4th " Charles E. Johnson.
- Albert S. Jenks.
- 5th " Richard B. Cassebeer.
- Samuel J. Johnson.

18th May, 1893.

- 1st ward, Albert A. Uicht.
- 2d " Edwin W. Fiske.
- 3d " Thomas R. Hodge.
- 4th " William L. Milligan.
- 5th " Robert W. Macgowan.

15th May, 1894.

- 1st ward, William C. Many.
- 2d " Frank M. Tichenor.
- 3d " Daniel W. Whitmore.
- 4th " William D. Grant.
- 5th " Adrian A. Buck.

21st May, 1895.

- 1st ward, Walter C. Reid.
- 2d " Herbert E. Walters.
- 3d " William G. Conklin.
- 4th " George C. Weiss, M.D.
- 5th " Thomas A. Fletcher.

19th May, 1896.

- 1st ward, Harry Armstrong.
- 2d " Stafford H. Cowan.
- 3d " Edward A. Howland.
- 4th " William D. Grant.
- 5th " Samuel Fiske.

18th May, 1897.

- 1st ward, Albert A. Uicht.
- 2d " John A. Cline.
- 3d " William D. Howe.
- 4th " Erland Andeberg.
- 5th " Adolph W. Wallander.

17th May, 1898.

- 1st ward, William A. Roedell.
- 2d " Edward T. Hayward.
- 3d " J. George Hermes.
- 4th " William D. Grant.
- 5th " James D. Connor.

16th May, 1899.

- 1st ward, Jesse E. Holdredge.
- 2d " Clarence S. Merrill.
- 3d " J. Mortimer Bell.
- 4th " Charles Weber.
- 5th " Thomas A. Fletcher.

15th May, 1900.

- 1st ward, William A. Roedell.
- 2d " Edward T. Hayward.
- 3d " J. George Hermes.
- 4th " J. A. B. Stillings.
- 5th " Charles H. Lovett.

5th November, 1901.

- 1st ward, long term, Wm. McGonigle.
- " short " Jesse E. Holdredge.
- 2d ward, long " Wm. F. Maxon.
- " short " J. Elmer Briggs.
- 3d ward, long " Frederick W. Clark.
- " short " James P. Hayes.
- 4th ward, long " J. A. B. Stillings.
- " short " Louis Kernstock.
- 5th ward, long " James K. Fuller.
- " short " Adolph W. Wallander.



COL. CORNELIUS MCLEAN.

4th November, 1902.

1st ward, Jesse E. Holdredge.
2d " Thomas A. McKennell.
3d " James P. Hayes.
4th " Charles Weber.
5th " Adolph W. Wallander.

THE PRESENT MUNICIPAL OFFICERS ARE:

Mayor, Edwin W. Fiske.
City Judge, Frank A. Bennett.
Clerk of City Court, H. J. Collins.
City Court Marshal, J. J. Moore.
Comptroller, James V. Simpson.
Clerk of Arrears, Frank N. Glover.
City Treasurer, Charles W. Straub.
Receiver of Taxes, Colin McKenzie.
Commissioner of Public Works, John O'Toole.
Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, Wm. C. Many.
Corporation Counsel, William J. Marshall.
City Clerk, William N. Hoyt.
City Physician, S. Oscar Myers, M.D.
Health Officer, H. Eugene Smith, M.D.
Chief of Police, Jeremiah C. Foley.
Commissioner of Charities, Peter De Witt.
Inspector of Buildings, James H. Perry.

SUPERVISORS.

Edward W. Storms, Duncan S. Campbell, William A. Anderson, Albert S. Jenks and Edgar K. Brown.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Albert F. Gescheidt, Jr., Sydney A. Syme.

ALDERMEN.

Jesse E. Holdredge, William McGonigle, William F. Maxon,
Thomas A. McKennell, James P. Hayes, Frederick W.
Clark, J. A. B. Stillings, Charles Weber, Adolph
W. Wallander and James K. Fuller.

ASSESSORS.

Charles H. Weiss, John E. Marshall and
John H. Cordes.

POLICE BOARD.

John J. Murphy, James A. Blanchard, William Hobby and
Siegfried Wurzburg.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONERS.

John C. McNeilly, Harry L. Lovell and August
C. Thoma.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS.

Charles H. Heinshon, Samuel N. Hoag and Louis
H. Kronfeld.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

W. H. Purdy, M.D., Henry Musculus and Leslie V. Bateman.

SUMMARY.

Mount Vernon to-day covers an area of four square miles, divided into five wards. It has more than thirty miles of well paved streets, kept in good repair and thoroughly clean;

those in the residential section are well shaded by overarch ing trees. Its streets are lighted by a hundred and twenty five arc, and about a hundred incandescant lights, in addition to seven hundred gas, and a hundred and fifty naphtha lights. There are four hundred and sixty fire hydrants and forty miles of sewer. It has three banks, four hotels, a hospital, ten public schools, including a high school, one parish school and four private schools. It has also a public park, four public halls, a theater or opera house, and another construct ing, twenty-five churches, and a public library containing eleven thousand volumes. The library is located in the High School Building. In 1901, Mayor Fiske secured from Andrew Carnegie the promise of \$35,000 to erect a building for the library. This amount Mr. Carnegie subsequently increased to \$50,000. After some delay—apparently unavoidable—a site was purchased with a hundred feet frontage on First



Telephone Building, N. Y. Telephone Co.

avenue, south of First street, and extending through to Second avenue. On this lot the work of building will begin at once.

There are four newspapers, two of them daily. A Board of Trade and a successful Building and Loan Association are evidences of enterprise and thrift. A recently constructed Post Office has all the modern appliances, and provides sixteen outgoing, and the same number of incoming daily mails. The Harlem branch of the New York Central, and the N. Y., N. H. & H. Railroads have stations in the city; on the former are eighty-two daily trains between Mount Vernon and New York, and fifty-two on the latter besides, there is trolley road connection between the two cities, by means of which one may ride from Mount Vernon to the Battery in New York for an eight cent fare. There is also trolley line connection with Yonkers, Bronxville, Tuckahoe, Pelham, New Rochelle and White Plains. It is almost impossible to over estimate the advantages which Mount Vernon has derived

from the introduction of the Union Railway Company's trolley system. While complaints are occasionally heard of insufficient accommodation, or of delays, the disgruntled ones do not make due allowance for the obstacles to be overcome in perfecting an extensive transportation project to be conducted over highways accessible to all, and where traffic interruptions may at any time occur; nor do they recall the annoyance to which they were subjected before the trolley roads gave them the facilities for travel which they now enjoy. The New York and Portchester Railroad Company has surveyed a route that will pass through this city, and the line, when built, will furnish another means of rapid transit. In addition, there is cheap freight transportation by water from New York by way of the sound and the Hutchinson River to the East Chester dock.

The telegraph and telephone service is complete. There is an efficient police force comprising a chief, two sergeants and twenty-three patrolmen. The Volunteer Fire Department is conceded to be the best in the State. There are three hundred enrolled members, divided into twelve companies, viz: Two hook and ladder companies, two steamer companies, one chemical engine company, six hose companies and a patrol company. They have modern firehouses and an adequate fire alarm system. There are three planing and moulding mills, two of them having also extensive yards and warehouses for the storage and sale of lumber and other builders' supplies. There is a guitar factory, a shirt factory, two carriage factories, an electric clock factory, a brewery and an automobile charging-station. The merchants are energetic, up-to-date, and hence successful. There are numerous social, literary, musical and political clubs, besides fraternal, trade, labor and benevolent organizations, other than those already noticed,

resigned to meet every requirement. Mount Vernon's real estate is assessed at \$24,000,000. It has twenty-five thousand inhabitants of a more than ordinarily desirable class. There are no millionaires and no paupers; there is no "smart set," no "four hundred" with liveried flunkies to accentuate their unchecked assumption and vulgar display; the community exemplifies the sentiment that

"The riches of the commonwealth
Are free, strong minds, and hearts of health;
And more to her than gold or grain,
The cunning hand and cultured brain."

The present population has been reached by an annual increase of more than a thousand in the last decade. The next decennial census will doubtless show that we have attained, if not exceeded, the forty thousand mark.

The roads in the vicinity are, for the most part, unusually good, and the scenery picturesque, offering irresistible attractions to horsemen, wheelmen and automobilists. Lying midway between the Hudson River and the Sound, it is convenient to both, and is thirteen miles from the Grand Central Depot. It is nearer to the Bronx, Pelham Bay, and Van Cortlandt Parks than is any part of New York City below the Harlem River. It is, at the highest point, one hundred and eighty feet above tide-water.

One can only predict of the future from a knowledge of the past; and the growth and prosperity already attained by Mount Vernon leads to a reasonable belief that it will surpass its previous record in the years to come, though it is quite possible—indeed, it appears inevitable—that eventually it will be absorbed by, and become a not inconspicuous part of the great metropolis of the Western Hemisphere.





H. EUGENE SMITH, M.D.

History of Mount Vernon

CHAPTER V.

SCHOOLS.

The history of the schools of Mount Vernon is the history of its progress and prosperity. Home Industrial Association No. 1, of New York City, by which Mount Vernon was founded in 1851, was made up of men of small means but large brains. They knew the value, nay, the necessity of a good education; and in laying out the village where they intended to dwell and rear their families, they set apart four school plots, each a

The staid old farmers of the town soon realized, that in school matters, as in everything else, they had a very lively, aggressive, disturbing element among them. As soon as the members of Home Industrial Association No. 1 came flocking into Mount Vernon, the old residents of the town of Eastchester were only too willing to let them have a school district by themselves.



South Fifth Avenue, North from Fourth Street
High School, South Fourth Avenue

School No. 1, South Fifth Avenue
South Fourth Avenue, South from Fourth Street

hundred feet in front and rear and two hundred and ten feet in depth. On one of these plots the High School is built, on another, School No. 1, on another School No. 3, and on the fourth School No. 4.

Mount Vernon was, when laid out in 1851, a part of the Town of Eastchester. The latter was divided into three school districts, each of which was independent of the other, and was governed by its own Board of Education.

Accordingly in the spring of 1852, School District No. 1 was carved out of School District No. 1, by the Supervisor, Town Clerk and Town Superintendent of Schools.

Its first meeting was held June 10, 1852, at which James W. Comstock, Samuel Munson and Edmund Hoole were elected school trustees, and Egbert S. Manning district clerk.

Another school meeting of the inhabitants of the district was held in the latter part of June, 1852, at which it was

resolved that the trustees should hire suitable apartments for school purposes and employ a teacher.

The school was located on the second floor of the unfinished house of John L. Guerin, on the northwest corner of Fifth avenue and Third street, Mount Vernon. In the fall of 1852, it was moved to Journeau's Hall, on the corner of Fifth avenue and Fourth street.

At the same time, work was begun on the school-house on Fourth avenue near Fourth street, where the High School now stands; and in the spring of 1853, the school was moved into the new building.

In the following winter, at a meeting of the inhabitants of the district, it was determined to obtain from the legislature, a special act of incorporation. This act was adopted

as president. Josiah H. Zabriskie then became the secretary. With a few intervals of rest and retirement, Mr. Zabriskie was a member of the Board of Education for more than forty years; and during twenty years of that long period he was its president.

When he became the secretary of the Board he was a teacher in School No. 3, of New York City, on the corner of Hudson and Grove streets. From that time until now he has been a teacher in or a principal of one of the New York City Schools; and in a hale and hearty old age is still in the harness, performing his duties with all the skill and knowledge which nearly fifty years of teaching have given him, and with much more vigor and energy, than many of those not half his age.



Union Hill School No. 6
School No. 5, North High Street

School No. 3, Eleventh Avenue
School No. 9, Vernon Park

June 8, 1853, and is entitled, "An Act to Establish Free Schools in School District No. 4, in the Town of Eastchester, Westchester County."

Under and by virtue of this act, a meeting of the school district was held on the 15th day of July, 1853, at which Messrs. John Stevens, John F. Luther, William Hathaway, Samuel T. Jennings, Frederick C. Beschorman, David Demarest, James C. Stephens, Amos Cheney and William H. Priece were elected members of the Board of Education.

John Stevens, the founder of Mount Vernon, and the president of Home Industrial Association No. 1, was elected the first president of the Board of Education.

In 1854, George W. Cooper, one of the ablest of all the pioneers, was made president. James C. Stephens was the first secretary of the Board, and in 1855, succeeded Mr. Coop-

To Mr. Zabriskie the city of Mount Vernon owes a deep debt of gratitude. He has played a very prominent part in making its public school system one of the best in the land.

Of all the members of the Board of Education who held office in the Fifties, he is the only survivor. Of those in the Sixties there is another, Dr. Henry C. Jones, who for many years stood shoulder to shoulder with Mr. Zabriskie, in securing everything for the education of the children of Mount Vernon, which good judgment and a progressive spirit suggested.

To go over the list of members of the Board of Education of School District No. 4, of the Town of Eastchester is to read its roll of honor.

In 1856 and '57, John L. A. Butler was the president of the Board; in 1858 and '59, Robert G. Hatfield; in 1860,



WILLIAM HENRY PURDY, M. D.

'61 and '62, Jacob Labagh; in 1863, Noah S. Whitlock; in 1864, David Quackinbush, and in 1865, Samuel T. Jennings.

Every one of these men took a prominent part in the development of Mount Vernon, not only of its schools, but its government in general.

Up to this time the school district had had seven principals as follows:

	Appointed.	Resigned.
John Graves	June 5, 1852.	Sept. 19, 1853.
John Oakley	Sept. 19, 1853	April 1, 1857.
W. L. V. Baird	April 1, 1857.	June 1, 1857.
J. Frank Wright.....	July 1, 1857.	April 1, 1859.
William H. Bailey.....	April 1, 1859.	Sept. 1, 1861.
John A. Nichols.....	Sept. 1, 1861.	Jan. 1, 1864.
Beekman VanGaasbeek	Jan. 1, 1864.	Jan. 1, 1865.

John A. Nichols left Mount Vernon, to accept the principalship of one of the Yonkers Public Schools.

Mr. Van Gaasbeek went into business for a while, but soon resumed teaching as a profession, filling the principalship of the Eastchester Public School on South Fifth avenue.

School District No. 4, included not only almost all of the incorporated village of Mount Vernon, but that part of the Town of Eastchester south of Mount Vernon, known as Washingtonville, South Washingtonville and Jacksonville, and that part of Wakefield which is north of Nineteenth avenue (that being the highway which leads to Woodlawn Cemetery).

For the convenience of the children in this lower section of the district an old barn on Twelfth avenue near First street was hired as a school-house, and on the 19th day of December, 1859, a public school was established therein, with



School No. 4, Fifth Avenue, near Sixth Street
Chester Hill School, No. 2



School No. 7, South Fulton Avenue
School No. 8, Howard Street

Mr. Graves became a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church. For a considerable time he was located at Washington, District of Columbia.

Mr. Baird was principal for only two months, Mr. Nichols for two years and four months, and Mr. VanGaasbeek for a year.

Mr. Oakley started a private school in Mount Vernon on his retirement from the principalship of the public school, and he maintained it up to the time of his death.

J. Frank Wright left the principalship of the Mount Vernon school, to accept a position as a teacher in one of the New York City schools. He soon thereafter became a principal, and that position he fills to this day, second to none in ability and energy of all his associates.

Mrs. William Atkinson as the teacher.

In 1863, Miss Louisa Ferry succeeded Mrs. Atkinson as the principal of this school, and Miss Susannah Bussing was appointed her assistant.

In 1862, the sum of one thousand dollars was spent in enlarging and somewhat bettering the school-house on Fourth avenue.

On the first day of January, 1865, Joseph S. Wood was appointed as the principal of the public school of School District No. 4, of the Town of Eastchester. He was a learned youth only twenty-two years old, who looked even younger than his years. He had graduated from the New York Free Academy (now the College of the City of New York) in 1861, with high honors; and had been, for two

years prior to January 1, 1865, the Clerk of the Cooper Union, where he had had the general supervision of that institution; and for one year after he became the principal of the Mount Vernon Schools he continued to be the superintendent of the Cooper Union Night School.

At that time the Board of Education consisted of Samuel T. Jennings, president, and Messrs. J. H. Zabriskie, William Smeaton, Dr. Henry C. Jones, David Quackinbush, Charles E. Manning, Donald Ferguson, George H. Bussing and Dr. Joseph S. Gregory.

It would have been a difficult matter, in a community ten times as large as that of Mount Vernon, to have found nine men as intelligent, as positive, as self-reliant, and as ready to stand for their convictions, as these. Mr. Smeaton was the principal of one of the New York schools on East Fourteenth street, and Mr. Zabriskie was the vice-principal of Public School No. 41, on Greenwich avenue, in New York City. These two men seldom agreed on any educational question; and the discussions in and out of the Board of Education were long and frequent. As a general rule Dr. Jones and David Quackinbush stood by Mr. Zabriskie, Dr. Gregory inclined to Mr. Smeaton. Messrs. Ferguson, Manning and Bussing stood neutral, and so did the president, Mr. Jennings.

Fortunately Mr. Wood had the confidence and support of both Mr. Zabriskie and Mr. Smeaton, and hence his appointment was unanimous.

At that time School District No. 4 had two school-houses; Number One on the site where the High School now stands, and Number Two, on Twelfth avenue near First street. Number One was moved several years ago to the lot north of the High School on South Fourth avenue. It is very much the same in appearance now, as it was in the Sixties and Seventies, when the boys and girls who are to-day among the best citizens of Mount Vernon, were wrestling with fractions and almost breaking their jaws with some outlandish names in geography.

In 1865 the average attendance in this school was 296, and the number of teachers employed therein, in addition to the principal was only six.

The list was as follows: Principal, Joseph S. Wood, A. M.; First Assistant, Miss Annie News; Second Assistant, Mrs. A. Annie Bruchle; Third Assistant, Miss Julia E. Cheney; Principal of the Primary Department, Miss Lucia M. Hale; First Assistant, Miss Sarah M. Wilson; Second Assistant, Miss Sarah A. McKay.

School Number Two was the old barn previously referred to, which the Board of Education rented for \$150 a year. When the wind blew, every map on the walls rattled, and when the weather was cold the children shivered.

That building has since been removed to the corner of Twelfth and First street. It has on it, a sign "The Old School-House," and is occupied as a beer saloon.

It is fitted up much more attractively and comfortably now that it is used to dispense beer, than it was, when it was used to dispense knowledge.

In this apology for a school-house, the average attendance of pupils was 78.

In March, 1865, Miss News resigned her position as first assistant in School Number One, and Miss Abbie L. Ely was appointed in her stead. For twenty years Miss Ely filled this position; and the hundreds of men and women who profited by her marked ability as a teacher hold her memory in the highest esteem.

Of the scores of teachers who taught in the public schools of Mount Vernon, in the Sixties and Seventies, almost all

were highly successful; but a few, who were pre-eminently so, are deserving of special mention. Two of them are still in the employ of the Board of Education, Miss Mary E. Gernon and Miss Sophie J. Mee. Miss Gernon has filled the positions of second assistant, first assistant, vice-principal and principal of School Number One, and for several years past has been the principal of School Number Seven.

She is one of the ablest, most conscientious, most painstaking and most successful of all the principals in the city. She has faithfully performed her duties wherever she has been sent for nearly thirty years, and wherever her influence has been felt it has been for the good of her pupils and the community.

Miss Mee has been a teacher in the Primary Department of School Number One since 1865. In her quiet, modest unassuming way, she has done a world of good and has been of inestimable value.

Miss Lucia M. Hale was for more than thirty years the principal of the Primary Department of School Number One. She was a splendid teacher and a first-class disciplinarian. Miss Louisa Ferry, the principal of Primary School Number Two, was also one highly esteemed by all her pupils. She died of consumption, after eight years of faithful service.

And there is Miss Sarah Allgood, who taught the infant class in School Number One until her health failed. No one can tell how many hundreds of little children learned, in her class, that love, not force, was the guiding spirit.

For many years School Number One had the good fortune to have for its vice-principal and first and second assistants, Miss Abbie L. Ely, Miss Jerrie W. Halsey and Miss Mary E. Gernon. It would be almost an impossibility to say which of them was the best teacher. Each one excelled in some one or more branches of study; each was equally earnest, indefatigable and unselfish; but for good nature and a keen sense of humor, Miss Halsey was easily first. She and her pupils were in full sympathy with each other, and the result was a perfect understanding and splendid results.

Miss Ely taught in School Number One from 1865 till 1885, Miss Halsey from 1871 till 1890, and Miss Gernon from 1873 till she became the principal of School Number Seven in 1895.

Among the other teachers who taught in School District Number Four between 1870 and 1880, and proved themselves especially worthy of commendation were Misses Margaret J. Hagen, Mary Fox, Eugenia Cooper, Lizzie Ferguson, Ida E. Coles, Isabella M. Pattison, Edith Cooper, Emeline A. Manning, Leila H. Lockwood, Mary C. Lockwood, Annie E. Graham, Ella S. Rankin, Mary K. Carter, Martha J. Judd and Mary Irwin.

The Misses Lockwood, after resigning their positions in the public schools, organized a private school in Mount Vernon, which is still flourishing, and is one of the attractive features of the city.

Miss Mary K. Carter graduated from School Number One; and, as she showed skill as an artist went to the Cooper Union School of Design for Women. There she graduated with high honors, and in 1878 was appointed teacher of drawing in the Mount Vernon schools. This position she filled very creditably until 1897, when she accepted a position as a teacher of drawing in the New York City Schools. Recent y, she was appointed as the teacher of drawing in the Wadleigh High School of New York City, which position she now fills. Miss Coles went to California, where she taught very successfully for several years. Misses Eugenia Cooper, Lizzie Ferguson, Annie E. Graham and Ella S. Rankin resigned to be married; Miss Edith Cooper became an engraver, and



MELVILLE S. PAGE, D.D.S.

Misses Pattison and Manning were taken away by the cold hand of death. Misses Judd and Irwin, who began to teach in Mount Vernon in 1878, are still in the employ of the Board of Education of the city of Mount Vernon, having been in faithful and continuous service nearly twenty-five years.

It was not until 1867 that any pupils regularly graduated from the Mount Vernon Public Schools and were given diplomas by the Board of Education. July 22, 1867, the first school commencement was held; and on that occasion, six pupils received their diplomas. They were Louisa Yeager, Ellen Wilson, Anna Bogart, Katie Martin, Frank Knight and Edward F. Knapp.

In 1868 six more graduated: Ida E. Coles, Jennie Ferguson, Amelia Rogers, Josephine Clark, Martha Mott and Benjamin F. Quackinbush.

In 1869 only four graduated: Isabella M. Pattison, Sarah Ferguson, Eva Satterlee and Harriet L. Bogart.

In 1870 eight graduated: Herbert Seymour, David V. Smith, James P. Haight, Mary Lovecraft, Emma Carter, Sophia Schmidt, Georgianna Bussing and Harriet L. Mott.

In 1871 only three graduated: Cora R. Duryea, Agnes C. Ferguson and Cynthia H. Denison.

What better evidence of the growth of Mount Vernon can be given than a comparison of these small groups of from three to eight graduates a year, with the two hundred a year who now graduate from the Mount Vernon Grammar Schools.

It is but just to add however, that the course of study in the Grammar School of School District Number Four was much higher and more extended than that of the Grammar Schools of to-day; in fact many of the studies now taught in the High School were included in the course of study of the graduating class.

School District Number Four was scarcely two years old before the demand for more school rooms was made. For a few years the old barn on Twelfth avenue afforded a miserable makeshift and temporary relief.

But in 1865 the schools were once more crowded to overflowing and the agitation for more school room was begun. Then came the struggle between progress and poverty. There was a determined opposition on the part of the most ignorant part of the community, and time and again, at the school district meetings, where all the taxpayers in the district had the right to vote, were the plans of the Board of Education voted down.

At that time the people in Washingtonville and the part of Wakefield north of Nineteenth avenue properly insisted that if any additional school accommodations were to be provided in the school district, there should be a school-house in Washingtonville.

Accordingly, through the tact and good sense of President Zabriskie, Secretary Benjamin W. Tilton and Trustees Jarvis C. Howard, Dr. Joseph S. Gregory, David I. Smith, Joseph V. Marsh, David C. Baucker and Dr. Simeon L. Close, the members of the Board of Education from Mount Vernon, and Thomas White the member from Washingtonville, a compromise was effected, whereby two new schools were built, one on Tenth avenue, near Second street, and the other at Washingtonville. This was finally adopted at a school district meeting in 1869, and with an expenditure of \$12,500 the two schools were built.

Miss Ferry was transferred from the Twelfth avenue school house, which was abandoned, to the Tenth avenue; and Miss Bussing was made principal of the Washingtonville school.

It was evident, almost as soon as these new school-houses were built, that another was necessary, and then began the

agitation for a school house on the Fifth avenue plot, near Second street, to take the place of the old wooden structure on Fourth avenue, which was a veritable fire-trap.

For years and years, the agitation of this question was kept up. Principal Wood was, at that time, the editor and proprietor of the village newspaper, the Chronicle; and week after week, without ceasing, his paper laid bare to the people the necessity for a new school-house.

Mr. Wood resigned the principalship of the schools of District Number Four in 1876, after eleven years of faithful service. During his administration, the public schools of Mount Vernon were raised to the highest rank; but his success he always attributed to the wise counsels, sound advice and good judgment of President Zabriskie, and to the excellent corps of teachers by whom he was assisted.

When he entered on the performance of his duties, the average attendance in the schools was 387. In 1876, when he resigned, it was 583. In 1865 the cost of maintaining the schools was \$7,091.19; in 1876 it was \$14,090.86. The cost per pupil in 1865 was \$18.32; in 1876 it was \$24.05. At present it is \$39.85.

In 1875 William P. Esterbrook was elected a member of the Board of Education. He was a man of remarkable personality. No one could overlook him. He was large in stature, had a loud, penetrating voice, an aggressive, determined will, and an absolute conviction of the correctness of his conclusions. He was devoted to the best interests of the public as he understood them, and his honesty and good faith were beyond question.

Mr. Esterbrook took up the agitation of the new school-house for School Number One. He was indefatigable in his efforts. By sheer persistency and force of will, he overcame the opposition. It took him two years to do it, but success crowned his work.

He drew the plans and specifications for the building and superintended its construction. He was a builder of great experience, and he put into this building the benefit of his knowledge. There was not a stone or brick or stick of timber which went into the building, until it had been inspected and approved by him. The people stood aghast at their own liberality. He had coaxed them into voting to raise \$52,500, to build and furnish this school-house. This sum, with the premium on the bonds, amounted to \$54,452.76. The building and furniture cost \$52,364.57, and with \$1,800 of the surplus the Board of Education bought the lot on the southwest corner of South Fifth avenue and West Second street.

As Mr. Esterbrook charged nothing for his plans or his services, the Board of Education unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, School District No. 4, of the Town of Eastchester, is now enjoying the benefits and comforts of the new school building, recently erected for its use on Fifth avenue, in this village, and

WHEREAS, This Board of Education, by its more immediate connection with its inception and progress to completion, is in a position to appreciate the skill and labor necessary to planning and accomplishing so great a work, so perfectly adapted to the purposes designed; and

WHEREAS, To the unpaid and devoted labor the architect, Wm. P. Esterbrook, Esq., we owe not merely the devising of the plan, but the superintendence of its execution; therefore

RESOLVED, That the most heartfelt thanks of this Board not only on their own behalf, but also on behalf of the citizens of the district, are hereby given to Mr. Wm. P. Ester-

brook, for his public spirit and generous devotion of skill, time, and no small amount of money, in the accomplishment of this noble work.

RESOLVED, That we congratulate the district upon the unprecedented result, so largely due to Mr. Esterbrook's prudence, watchfulness and care, that the edifice was turned over to the Board, complete in all its details, within the limits of the estimates and appropriations.

RESOLVED, That these preambles and resolutions be printed in our Annual Report, and that a copy of them, suitably engrossed and signed by the members of this Board, be presented to Mr. Esterbrook.

Upon the retirement of Mr. Wood from the principalship, M. L. Cook was elected to fill the vacancy. He did not meet with much success, and resigned after holding the position only six months.

The Board of Education then had the good fortune to secure the services of Charles E. Nichols, and he, as principal or superintendent, has been employed in the public schools of this city since 1877.

With his incoming and the completion of the new school-house on South Fifth avenue, the public school system of Mount Vernon entered upon a new era of great prosperity.

Before proceeding to the consideration thereof, honorable mention should be made of the men who unselfishly and gratuitously devoted their time and ability, as members of the Board of Education, to the advancement of the public school system.

Many of these gentlemen have been referred to already.

Of those not yet mentioned, who are still living and residing in Mount Vernon, there are George R. Crawford, Joseph S. Clark, Charles C. Bigelow, James H. Jenkins, John Irwin, Henry Huss, Albert F. Gescheidt, Dr. Edward F. Brush, William Allen, William H. Bard, James L. Warren, A. Noel Blake-man, W. M. Halsey and William Hitchcock.

Of those who are still living but who have moved away, there are the Rev. Oliver Dyer, the Rev. J. Riley Johnson, Wm. A. Armstrong, John Bingham, Albert J. Pearson and Daniel M. VanCott.

Of those who are dead there are, John Stevens, Benjamin W. Tilton, Philip Lucas, Jr., Gilbert W. Barnes, William Le Roy, Andrew Barr, Matthew Morrison, George E. Fuechsel, James Howland, Cyrus D. Jones, George H. Moore, William Howe, Calvin T. Hazen, Beckman Van Gaasbeek, James Russell, Alphonse L. Embury, Thomas M. Taylor, William M. Denman, Dr. Stuart B. Carlisle, George J. Penfield and William A. Hustace.

Of these gentlemen, George R. Crawford was president of the Board of Education in 1882, Thomas M. Taylor in 1885, George J. Penfield in 1889, William A. Armstrong in 1892 and A. Noel Blakeman in 1894.

While every man on this roll of honor is entitled to the

thanks of the community, especial mention should be made of two, who, by reason of long service and exceptional devotion to their work were of very great usefulness in building up the Mount Vernon public school system. One of these was Philip Lucas, Jr. and the other was Benjamin W. Tilton. Mr. Lucas was a member of the Board of Education for fifteen years, and Mr. Tilton for seventeen years. From 1869 until 1886, with but few exceptions, either Mr. Lucas or Mr. Tilton was the secretary of the Board. Almost all the time Mr. Lucas was in the Board, he was the chairman of the committee on teachers and discipline; and Mr. Tilton was, throughout his membership in the Board, the chairman of the committee on library.

No two men in the Board ever performed their duties more faithfully and intelligently.

The history of the public schools in District Number Four would not be complete without reference to the long continued, faithful and efficient service of the Clerk of the Board of Education, William P. Sleight. He was appointed to that position in 1869 and he held it, except for one short interval, until 1894, a period of twenty-five years. Through his experience and intelligence, he became a very valuable adviser to members of the Board; and on almost every question of importance, his judgment was sought, and proved very useful in reaching a correct conclusion.

Another of the good citizens of Mount Vernon who was long and honorably identified with its public school system was John Berry. For eighteen years, he was the treasurer of School District Number Four of the Town of Eastchester; and won the esteem and confidence of the public, the Board of Education and the teachers, not only by his honesty and reliability, but by his urbanity, his willingness to oblige and his readiness to assist. Time and again he advanced the money required to pay the obligations of the school district, and no teacher who was in need of money before her salary was due, ever applied to him in vain.

In 1889 he declined a re-election, and thereupon the people, at the annual school meeting adopted the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, John Berry has for many years held the responsible position of treasurer of this, the Fourth School District of the Town of Eastchester, and has filled said office with honor to himself and the district, and in a manner highly acceptable to all concerned, without fee, reward, or the hope of reward for his time and services, and

WHEREAS, He now voluntarily retires from said office, so long and ably filled by him, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the hearty thanks of the electors of said district be and the same are hereby extended to Mr. Berry for his faithfulness and efficiency in the discharge of all the important duties and responsibilities devolving upon him as said treasurer for a series of years; and that it is with regret that they part with him and his services as such officer.





GEN. HENRY H. BOYCE.

History of Mount Vernon

CHAPTER VI.

THE MOUNT VERNON BAR, FROM THE EARLIEST RECOLLECTIONS.

The earliest recollections of the members of the Bar in Mount Vernon go back to three men, Joseph D. Fay, Pelham L. McClellan and William H. Pemberton. Mr. Fay was one of the family of that name which had lived in the old homestead, opposite St. Paul's, Eastchester, for more than a century. He was not gifted of speech, he was not a jury lawyer, he was not a man of affairs. He was a student. He loved to pore over law books and to discuss knotty legal problems. He was for several years a justice of the peace in the town of Eastchester, and he had desk room in Mr. Pemberton's office. That place was the cradle of the Mount Vernon Bar. It was in the house on the north side of the New York side of the New York and New Haven Railroad, just west of Gould's Hotel, now known as the Mount Vernon Hotel. In that office Mr. Pemberton practiced law for nearly fifty years. It was not until his death, March 11, 1901, that it became vacant.

Mr. Fay's most notable achievement was the Digest of the Laws of the State of New York. It was a work which involved a great amount of painstaking and excellent legal discrimination. In this Digest, which filled three large volumes, all the laws of the State of New York, from 1777 to 1874 were arranged alphabetically, according to the subjects they treated of, just as the decisions of the courts are grouped, in the digests of the same.

Pelham L. McClellan was a lawyer who liked to try jury cases. He was never so happy as when in a keen contest before the court and a jury. He had his office and library at his home on Sixth avenue, near Fourth street, but he spent most of his time in Mr. Pemberton's office, and tried most of the latter's cases.

Mr. Pemberton was very successful as an office lawyer. He was a man of affairs. He searched titles, made loans, drew wills and attended to all the legal work outside of the actual trial of causes. He virtually had a monopoly of the law business in Mount Vernon for a number of years. It was his ambition to become the County Judge of Westchester County. Three times he ran for the office, but each time, the fortune of the polls was against him. He was, however, the District Attorney of Westchester County from January 1, 1857, until January 1, 1863. He was succeeded in that office by Mr. McClellan until January 1, 1866.

Even in the Fifties and before the war, there were other lawyers in Mount Vernon beside the trio just named, but they had their offices and they did most of their law business in New York City. Prominent among these were Judge William H. Van Cott, who lived on Union avenue, corner of Washington street, and William M. Denman, who lived on the corner of Second avenue and Third street.

Judge Van Cott is still living, and is practising law in New York City. Mr. Denman died in 1901, much respected by all who knew him, for his ability, integrity and kindness of heart. He was a graduate of the New York Free Academy, now the College of the City of New York, from which so

many eminent members of the New York Bar have proceeded.

In the Sixties there were two other able lawyers who resided in Mount Vernon, but practiced at their profession almost wholly in New York City. One of these was John Flanders, of the firm of Prentiss & Flanders. The other was Robert R. McKay Ormsby. Both are now dead. Mr. Flanders was one of the shrewd, technical, thoroughly posted practitioners. His adversary could never for a moment be off his guard.

Mr. Ormsby was his antitype. He cared little for details. He reveled in the discussion of broad, general principles. He had a profound sense of the prerogatives, privileges and honors of the profession, and had a chivalrous nature, which scorned an unfair or even a small advantage. He was one of the attorneys for Jefferson Davis when he was indicted for treason, but the trial never came off.

In 1872 the village of Mount Vernon was able to boast of another law office than that in which Pemberton, McClellan and Fay had their headquarters.

Charles H. Ostrander lived at Tuckahoe. He studied law in the office of John J. Clapp, Esq., at White Plains, and was admitted to the Bar in 1870. He was elected to the office of Town Clerk of the town of Eastchester in 1871. The Town Clerk's office was held in those days in Mount Vernon and as he had to be here daily, he opened his law office in a little one-story frame structure on the east side of Fourth avenue, where the Chronicle building now stands. There he continued to transact business for several years. In 1873 this part of Mount Vernon was swept with a terrific fire. Almost before the ruins were cold, John Berry began the erection of the brick building on Fourth avenue, where Genung & McArdle now have their department store. Mr. Ostrander moved over into that building, taking offices on the second floor; and there he remained at work in his profession until 1901. Then he moved into the Lucas building, where he is still faithfully attending to the performance of his duties.

In 1875 Mr. Ostrander formed a co-partnership with William A. Woodworth, which was dissolved in 1882. Mr. Woodworth removed to White Plains, where he is still engaged in the practice of law.

John Stevens, the founder of Mount Vernon, had two sons, John Osear Stevens and George Stevens. Both studied law in the office of Mr. Pemberton, in the Sixties. The former was duly admitted to the Bar, but left Mount Vernon to go to Plainfield, New Jersey. He practiced his profession there and in New York City, and is now the secretary of the Postal Telegraph Company. George Stevens, on account of poor health, never entered into active practice.

Another of the clerks who gained their first practical experience of the law in Mr. Pemberton's office was George W. Hunt. He took the course of study in the New York University Law School, and graduated therefrom in 1871. As his own private affairs have taken up most of his time,

he has acted, in law matters, mainly as associate counsel. For many years he has had his headquarters in the office of Herbert D. Lent, who was a fellow clerk with him in Mr. Pemberton's office.

In 1877 Joseph S. Wood graduated from Columbia College Law School and began the practice of law in Mount Vernon.

He opened an office in the Berry building, directly opposite that of Mr. Ostrander. As his business increased rapidly, he sought a partner. Among his fellow students in the Columbia College Law School was one whose legal abilities, hard work and logical mind impressed Mr. Wood deeply. He was Isaac N. Mills. Mr. Wood invited him to enter into a partnership and he did so. It was dissolved by mutual consent in 1882. Each member of the firm has since continued the practice of law in Mount Vernon, with marked success.

In 1883 Judge Mills was elected to the office of County Judge of Westchester County, which office he filled with distinguished ability for twelve years.

Twice has he since sought the nomination of the Republican party for the office of Justice of the Supreme Court, and in both instances he has failed by a very narrow margin.

In 1900 Judge Mills was elected as Senator of the Senatorial District, and for two years he filled that office.

He has been one of the examiners of applicants for admission to the Bar, and is justly regarded as one of the ablest lawyers in Westchester County.

Mr. Wood has been much honored by his professional brethren. For two terms he was one of the vice-presidents of the Westchester County Bar Association, and for two terms thereafter he was the president thereof.

Shortly after Messrs. Mills and Wood entered into partnership, Messrs. Ostrander and Woodworth added two more partners to their firm. They were Messrs. Charles H. Roosevelt and William Bourke Cochran. Mr. Roosevelt had for several years practiced law in New Rochelle. He remained in the firm only a short time, and then went back to his more familiar stamping-ground.

Mr. Cochran was a new-comer. He was a nephew of Edward Martin, who as president of the village of Mount Vernon, as supervisor of the town of Eastchester and in many other ways had won the highest esteem and affection of the people.

Mr. Cochran therefore came well recommended. He was a graduate of Dublin University, and was gifted with a command of words and a fertility of resource, which attracted attention from the start. For a year or two he taught school at Tuckahoe, but he took to the law as a duck takes to water.

Messrs. Cochran, Mills and Wood began the practice of law in Mount Vernon about the same time; and some of the cases which they fought out were very interesting.

Especially so were the proceedings for the removal of Robert W. Edmonds from the office of Justice of the Peace in the town of Eastchester, in which Mr. Cochran appeared for Justice Edmonds and Mr. Wood for the petitioners.

In a short time, Mr. Cochran drifted to New York City; and from that time until now, his reputation as an orator and a lawyer has been world-wide.

Among the clerks who studied law in the office of Mills & Wood were two who have since become lawyers, and who are now practicing law in Mount Vernon, Frank N. Glover and David O. Williams; the former is also the Clerk of Arrcars of Taxes and Assessments, and the latter is the Postmaster of the city.

Since Mr. Wood has been in practice by himself, several of the younger lawyers have graduated from his office. Prom-

inent among these are Harry V. Morgan, Rolland B. Archer, Charles Vander Roest and Adam Pearson.

From Mr. Ostrander's office came Stephen J. Stilwell, and from Mr. Pemberton's office, Messrs. William J. Marshall and Herbert D. Lent.

Mr. Marshall is the corporation counsel of the city of Mount Vernon, and Mr. Lent is the president of the village of Tuckahoe. For many years he was the town clerk and then the supervisor of the town of Eastchester.

In 1882 another member was added to the Bar of the village of Mount Vernon, Norman A. Lawlor.

He had studied law in the office of Judge William H. Van Cott, and by reason of his energy, confidence and ability at once took a leading part.

In 1883 he was elected police justice of the village of Mount Vernon, and in 1884 he was sent to the Assembly to represent the people of this district. As his business grew rapidly, he took into partnership David Swits, who after a short time left Mr. Lawlor and started out for himself.

Mr. Lawlor went to New York City in 1894, and has since had little or no practice in Mount Vernon.

Mr. Swits is still engaged in active practice in this city. From 1893 to 1898 he was the corporation counsel of the city of Mount Vernon.

In 1891 George C. Appell was admitted to the Bar. He was born in and had been brought up in Mount Vernon, and from the time he became of age he had taken an active part in Mount Vernon affairs. For many years he was a stenographer, and in that capacity, he had learned much law. This was of great assistance to him in his studies. Mr. Appell very soon took into partnership Odell D. Tompkins, and this partnership still exists. Mr. Tompkins was compelled on account of his health, to go to Colorado and Arizona. Thence he went to the Phillipines and now he is back again strong and vigorous.

Mr. Appell was the first city judge who was elected under the charter of the city of Mount Vernon, in 1892. His opponent was Edgar K. Brown. Judge Appell is now one of the vice-presidents of the Westchester County Bar Association and enjoys a large and lucrative practice.

One of the lawyers in Mount Vernon who entered the profession in middle age was Jared Sandford, who died February 3, 1903. Mr. Sandford always took a prominent part in public affairs. He was president of the village of Mount Vernon, and for a few months was its first mayor. He was the school commissioner for the First District of Westchester County, and the deputy commissioner of public instruction for the State of New York. In 1898 he was the assemblyman for the First Assembly District of Westchester County.

One of his contemporaries, who, for several years, was the leading spirit in West Mount Vernon was Joseph Belle-sheim. He had his office on Chambers street, New York City, but nevertheless transacted considerable office business in Mount Vernon. He was a member of the board of trustees of West Mount Vernon and of the board of education of School District Number Five of the town of Eastchester. For four years he was a justice of the peace in the town. He was a very genial, sociable man and was very popular. He died in 1885.

Shortly after Mills & Wood dissolved partnership, Judge Mills entered into a partnership with Walter S. Allerton. This partnership continued during 1884 and 1885. Mr. Allerton has practiced law mostly in New York City, although he has resided in Mount Vernon or the town of Eastchester for more than forty years.

In 1895 Judge Mills entered into partnership with his



MAURICE J. SULLIVAN.

nephew, Arthur M. Johnson, and that partnership still exists.

Judge Appell was succeeded as city judge by Judge Adam E. Schatz, who held the office until 1898, when the present incumbent, Judge Frank A. Bennett, was elected. Judge Bennett has his office in Mount Vernon, but Judge Schatz, though a resident of this city, has his office in New York.

J. Mortimer Bell was until 1888 a resident of City Island. He was admitted to the Bar in 1888, and has been successfully practicing at his profession ever since. In 1891 he opened his office in Mount Vernon and has remained here ever since. During the years 1899, 1900 and 1901 he was a member of the board of aldermen of the city of Mount Vernon.

Another prominent and public-spirited citizen who is a lawyer, is Charles C. Bigelow. Mr. Bigelow's office has always been in the city of New York, but he has taken an active part in the public affairs of Mount Vernon. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees and of the Board of Education. He was the president of the Mount Vernon Water Commission and is one of the supervisors of Westchester County from the city of Mount Vernon.

Messrs. Milo J. White and Frank M. Buck began the practice of law in Mount Vernon as partners in 1890. In the year 1893 this partnership was dissolved, but each of these gentlemen has continued to practice his profession in Mount Vernon. Mr. Buck is now the attorney who represents the State of New York in Westchester County, in matters relating to the transfer tax.

Charles H. Lovett is another of the lawyers in Mount Vernon who take an active part in public affairs. Mr. Lovett was a member of the Board of Aldermen in 1900, 1901 and 1902. He is now the appraiser for the State of New York in Westchester County as to estates out of which is to be collected the transfer tax.

Two gentlemen who formerly practiced law at White Plains have, within a few years past, taken up their residence in Mount Vernon: Frederick W. Clark and Eugene Archer. Mr. Clark is one of the aldermen of the city and takes an active interest in its affairs. William E. Conklin formerly was engaged in the practice of law at New Rochelle. When he came to Mount Vernon, a few years ago, he entered into partnership with Addison J. Lyon. He is now in the office of Mr. Stilwell.

Another member of the Bar who has for many years been the supervisor of the town of Pelham and for several years the president of the Westchester County Board of Supervisors, has recently opened his office in Mount Vernon for the practice of law, John M. Shinn.

Stuart W. Cowan is one of the lawyers of Mount Vernon, and takes an active interest in public affairs. Until recently he was a member of the Board of Education.

There is a large number of lawyers who reside in Mount

Vernon whose offices are in New York City. Most of them do not practice law in Mount Vernon, but some of them do.

Among the best known of the latter class is Roger M. Sherman, whose name denotes his lineage, and who is recognized as one of the ablest lawyers in Westchester County.

Another, worthy of special mention, is Frank M. Tichenor, who has always taken a prominent part in public affairs, has been one of the aldermen of this city and is now a member of the Board of Education.

Also Edward Hartley, who gave the city the large plot of ground known as Hartley Park, and who has always taken a deep interest in public education.

Also Herbert T. Jennings, who laid out and developed Vernon Heights. Also Joshua M. Fiero, George W. Perkins, Arthur Furber, William G. Bussey, Howard Allison, Hugh Reavey, William B. Magrath, Glen F. McKinney, Jarvis W. Mason, George W. Wallace, Alfred A. Wright, William B. Wright, Henry J. Appell, Jr., James D. DeCamp, Edwin L. Ford, and Charles E. Demard.

Of the younger members of the Bar in Mount Vernon there is a host that bid fair to prove successful.

Among them are, William C. Maines, C. DeVere Manville, Thomas A. McKennall, Charles W. Sinnott, James V. Simpson, Horace P. Hollister, Will F. Gay, Samuel B. Smith, Elmer P. Smith, Sydney A. Syme, George B. Crawford, Frederick H. Denman, Albert F. Gescheidt, Jr., Alexander Hirschberg, Julien E. Ingle, Jr., John C. McNeilly, George W. Riggs, Robert D. Paskett, H. Wesley Coons, Gustav R. Hamburger, and Sydney M. Wood.

Mr. Maines was in 1901 the member of Assembly from this district. Mr. Manville is in the office of Joseph S. Wood. Mr. McKennall is one of the aldermen of the city. Mr. Simpson is the comptroller. Mr. Sinnott has his office in New York City, but has considerable practice in Mount Vernon. Mr. Hollister was formerly in the office of Judge Mills and subsequently in that of Mr. Morgan. Mr. Gay is associated with Mr. White. Samuel B. Smith has offices with Mr. Shinn. Elmer P. Smith divides his time between New York and Mount Vernon. Mr. Syme has recently been elected a Justice of the Peace and has just started out for himself, after having been the managing clerk of Mills and Johnson for several years. George B. Crawford is in partnership with Mr. Ostrander. Mr. Denman is the son of William M. Denman and has succeeded to his father's practice. Mr. Gescheidt is a justice of the peace, and has offices with his father, Albert F. Gescheidt, Sr. Mr. Paskett was, until recently, a justice of the peace. Mr. Coons is in the office of Mr. Lent. Mr. Hamburger was until recently, the managing clerk in the office of corporation counsel Marshall, but has started in practice for himself, and Sydney M. Wood, who is the son of Joseph S. Wood, is associated with his father.



History of Mount Vernon

CHAPTER VII.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES, ETC.—THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF MANY CITIZENS WHO HAVE BEEN PROMINENT IN THE LIFE OF MOUNT VERNON.

THE HON. EDWIN W. FISKE, Mayor of the city of Mount Vernon, and the subject of this sketch, is one of those fortunate individuals who have been endowed by nature with all the requirements for success in this life; ability, character, energy and appearance, all are his, and these gifts have been well used. Mayor Fiske was born at Shamokin, Penn., on July 17, 1861. He is the son of Samuel and Amanda Stoddard Fiske, the father being of Puritan ancestry, and a native of Massachusetts. Mayor Fiske received his education in Harrisburg, after which he served an apprenticeship with the Bessemer Steel Manufacturing Company, and afterward worked in the steel business with the Pennsylvania Steel Company. Removing to New York City he engaged in the steam and hot water heating trade, and continued in the same business in Mount Vernon, to which place he removed in 1885. In 1892 he disposed of his heating interests, and devoted his attention to real estate, of which he is a large holder, and also to the oil business, in which his sagacity showed him vast possibilities. That he had unusual success in all the above mentioned undertakings admits of no contradiction, and personal experience has made Mayor Fiske an ardent advocate of the rights of labor. He married Miss Annie E. Smith, daughter of the late Henry C. Smith, first president of the People's Bank, and one of Mount Vernon's most progressive citizens. Almost from his arrival in Mount Vernon, Mayor Fiske has been interested in the welfare of the Fire Department. He was one of the organizers of Steamer Co. No. 3, and was foreman of that company for three years, then becoming chief engineer of the Mount Vernon Fire Department, to which office he was elected three times, resigning to become Mayor of the city. Under his leadership the Department was expanded and developed, so that at present there are nine companies, with apparatus such as is usually found in the largest cities. The discipline is equal to that of any paid department. Mayor Fiske has also served with distinction as a member of the military, becoming a member of the former Eleventh Separate Company, he speedily rose to the rank of first lieutenant, and on the organization of the First Regiment, became battalion quartermaster of the First Battalion. The Mayor is a member of the Old Guard of New York City. Socially, Mayor Fiske is very popular, and has retained the friendship of the people through all his career. Once a friend, always a friend, is his maxim, and probably this has constituted as much to his success in life as anything else. As he takes an interest in everything connected with the welfare of his city, he is necessarily a member of a great many organizations, religious, social, political and fraternal; in all of these he takes an active interest. Politically Mayor Fiske is a democrat and from the very first has taken a strong interest in the affairs of the city of Mount Vernon. Elected a trustee in 1889, his sagacity taught him that the greatest obstacle to Mount Vernon's

progress, was the want of good roads, and through his public career he has always and successfully worked to obtain these. Mount Vernon's position to-day as a city of model roads, and its continued growth, prove the correctness of his judgment. In 1893 he was elected Alderman and in 1894 the Democratic party, recognizing in him the talents which indicate the leader, under whose guidance the city's progress and success would be assured, unanimously nominated him for the office of Mayor. The election was very close, and after extended litigation was decided by a judge of the western part of the State in favor of his opponent by one vote. Again in 1896 he was the candidate of the Democrats, and was elected by a majority of 505. The growth and prosperity of the city during this term was so pronounced that he was re-elected in 1898 by a majority of 671, also in 1900 by a still greater majority. His political opponents in 1901 had an act passed by the Legislature, changing the city election from May to November, hoping that the State ticket would influence voters into voting for the local candidates on the Republican ticket, but in spite of the fact that the city went Republican on State issues, and also the fact that there was a Republican tidal wave in New York City, the Mayor was again re-elected. In 1902 Mayor Fiske was elected chairman of the Democratic Committee of Westchester County, which position he now holds. Mayor Fiske's wonderful success in public life has no secrets. The interests of all the people have ever been his; he makes no distinctions; he is ever at the service of all his constituents, and the interests of the whole city have been paramount.

GEORGE R. CRAWFORD was born on June 21, 1841, in White Plains, Westchester County, N. Y., his parents having been Elisha and Judith (Tompkins) Crawford. After completing his education at the White Plains Military Academy, he became engaged at an early age in the fire insurance business, which pursuit he has followed through life. He became connected with the Westchester Fire Insurance Company, which was established in 1837, and after filling many offices in that company, he was in 1879 elected to its presidency, which position he now holds; and the prominence and success which this corporation enjoys is due, in a large measure, to his ability. Mr. Crawford became a resident of Mount Vernon some thirty-four years ago, and since that date he has been a great factor in the making of the history of the place. He is a prominent Mason, having filled many prominent offices in that order. He is a member of Hiawatha Lodge, No. 434, F. & A. M.; Mount Vernon Chapter No. 328, R. A. M.; Bethlehem Commandery No. 53, K. T.; Wauregan Encampment of O. D. O., and is a member of all the branches of Scottish Rites and of the Mecca Temple. Mr. Crawford was elected a village trustee of Mount Vernon, in 1870, and again in 1873. He was elected village president in 1876, and served two years.



WILLIAM J. MARSHALL.

He gives many interesting reminiscences in connection with his service in the Fire Department, in the organization of which he was very efficient. In politics he is an Independent. He was married on May 25, 1864, to Miss Lucretia Greig, daughter of James L. and Rebecca Greig, of Brooklyn. Mr. Crawford is a member of a number of prominent social organizations, among which are the Siwanoy Golf Club and the Sons of the Revolution, his great-grandfather having been an officer in the American army, and killed in a skirmish with the British troops, at Stephen Ward's tavern, on the White Plains road, Tuckahoe, N. Y., on the site of the residence of the late Judge Silas D. Gifford.

GEORGE HAYES was born in the city of Gloucester, England, in 1840. He was educated as an architect, civil and mechanical engineer. He has traveled extensively in Europe, Asia, Africa and America. Accounts of his travels in many countries have been published and read with much interest, his description of persons and things being very entertaining. He is well known in all the principal cities of this continent as well as in Europe. He has established as many as twenty-two manufactories in various cities of this continent and in Europe and has created many new industries in which many thousands are employed. He is a successful business man, a prolific inventor and author of many treatises upon architectural and engineering topics. It would be almost impossible to erect a modern dwelling without the employment of some of his inventions, and there is scarcely a city in the civilized world, however remote, in which some of his inventions are not practiced. To his efforts the use of metal to a very considerable extent has superseded material which had hitherto been inadequate to the successful accomplishment and advantageous construction, especially in modern buildings. In awarding the medal to Mr. Hayes at the Centennial Exhibition in 1876, where he had erected a building in which he incorporated his inventions, the Judges' report was: "For the ingenuity displayed in the construction of the various articles, based on sound principles, and especially for the perfection arrived at in the construction of skylights." Mr. Hayes has at various times been awarded over one hundred medals; his contributions to life-saving devices and fire-proof construction are well and widely known. He has indeed led a most active, useful and eventful life; such men of progress may be justly regarded as substantial benefactors. He is a member of The General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York, The American Institute, The Association of American Inventors, (of which he was for several years its vice-president), The Building Employers' Association (of which he was for some years its president), The American Society of Mechanical Engineers, The International Association of Fire Engineers, Employers' Association of Roofers and Sheet Metal Workers of Greater New York (of which he is an ex-president,) and of all the various Masonic bodies, including honorary membership in Anglo-American Lodge, in London, England. He was formerly a member of the Republican Club of New York, the Abingdon and several other clubs. He is at present a member of the Republican Club of Mount Vernon. Mr. Hayes and family resided in the City of New York from 1865 to 1898, when they moved to Mount Vernon, residing on Charemont avenue, since which time Mr. Hayes has adopted a life of comparative leisure; he is, however, the president and principal stockholder in the George Hayes Company, of New York, and he continues to be interested in various other enterprises mainly of his own creation. Mr. Hayes is an amateur musician, and claims that the development of his inventions and the furtherance of his business enterprises have been accelerated, and the cares and respon-

sibilities incidental to his successful and busy career have been alleviated, by the happy diversions afforded him by his love, knowledge and practice of music, together with the interest he has taken and the services rendered by him in Masonic Association, in which he has held many high offices and is regarded as a most distinguished member. He is spoken of in the most glowing terms in the book entitled "The Standard History of Freemasonry in the State of New York." In speaking of him it says in part: "In recognition of his services, the Grand Lodge by special legislation in 1896 made him a life member of its body, and by his election to the office of Grand Treasurer at the annual meeting in 1897, became by virtue of that office a life member of the Grand Lodge, so that he enjoys the unique distinction of having his membership in the Grand body fortified by two qualifications." The first act here referred to, is an honor never before or since conferred upon any person and it means that he holds in a dual capacity, a position, which out of nearly one hundred and twenty thousand masons in the State of New York, twenty persons only at the present time hold that distinguished honor. Again we find it stated by the same authority: "On declining to serve a second term as Grand Treasurer, after being re-elected to that office by acclamation in 1898, the Grand Lodge adopted a resolution recognizing the eminent value of Brother Hayes' long continued services to the Masonic Institution in New York." Mr. Hayes is in possession of many very substantial tokens of regard, showing still further the high esteem in which he is held. He is a gentleman of refinement and culture, possessing a large and varied fund of knowledge and is an extremely bright and interesting conversationalist.

MILTON RATHBUN, late resident of Chester Hill, Mount Vernon, N. Y., was born on August 3, 1844, at Verona Mills, then called Rathbunville, near Rome, N. Y., and was the son of Solomon and Hannah Rathbun. His ancestors were Hick-site Quakers, well known, influential, and were noted among other attributes for veracity and straight forwardness. In 1857 the family removed to Springfield, Mass., where he continued his education. In 1860 he came to New York City and entered in the employ of Mr. Haight, in the hay and grain business, continuing until the day of his transition (with the exception of two years) in the same business, and in the same building. In 1872, without capital, or any family financial backing, his father having lost his fortune in the panic of 1857, he assumed the ownership of the business then conducted by Elbert Hallock. By diligence, perseverance, honest dealing, superior judgment, and stupendous courage he built up the business to great proportions, and in 1890 a stock company was formed with Mr. Rathbun as the President and holding the controlling interest. This prosperous concern is known as the Milton Rathbun Company and is located at 453 Fourth avenue, New York City. He was also interested in mines in British Columbia, and operated them to some extent. Although very popular with his business associates and many others he was essentially a home man and devoted to his family. In 1873 he was married to Fannie Lee Fales, of Bellport, L. I.; two sons survive him: Frank Hallock, a graduate in the class of '96, Harvard University, now Vice-President of the Milton Rathbun Company, and Charles Stephen, an under-graduate of the same college. The family lived in New York City until 1884, when they located in the pleasant home in this city, which his wife and sons still occupy. In early youth he received indubitable proof of spirit return and communion, and became a firm spiritualist, never swerving from that standpoint, although he took an interest in all schools of progressive thought and

shared with each in all that he found to be truth. He showed his reverence for God by his deeds of love to man; he found good in all religions, and was tolerant toward every dissenting faith. His religious ideals covered all the problems of life and destiny and he fraternized in any effort for the good of mankind. Becoming interested through the writings of Dr. Edward Hooker Dewey on diet and believing it to be in the interest of good health, he made two extended fasts, the first in 1899, of 28 days, duration, and the second in the early part of 1900, lasting for 35 days, during which he attended to business as usual and experienced little or no inconvenience therefrom, with results beneficial to both body and mind. Mr. Rathbun was very favorably known in commercial life, being a member of the Produce and Haymarket Exchanges, of New York City. He was also on the Governing Board of the Chester Hill Club of Mount Vernon, and a member of the Mount Vernon Hospital Association. He was a man of quiet, unobtrusive, retiring manners, apt at business and endowed with a cultivated insight of men and methods, which made him a wise administrator of his affairs and a successful employer of labor. He was a close student and a well-read man, not only in commercial matters, but also in current and standard literature and possessed one of the finest libraries in Westchester County. Genial and entertaining to his friends, kind and loving to his family, sympathetic and charitable to the world at large, he was held in the greatest respect and esteem by all. Mr. Rathbun departed this life for the life beyond death on September 7, 1902, at Riverhead, L. I., and his remains are interred at Verona Mills, N. Y., the place of his birth. The obsequies attending his funeral were held in Willard Hall, and were very imposing; besides the relatives a large concourse of people were present, including many business and social friends, among them the entire body of officers and employees of the Milton Rathbun Company, of New York, many members of the Produce and Haymarket Exchanges and a large delegation of the Westchester Woman's Club of Mount Vernon. The floral tributes were numerous and more elegant than ever before seen in this city. Mrs. Rathbun, who survives the honored subject of this sketch, is a refined and cultured woman, most pleasing in manner, and is very prominent and popular in social circles. She is President of the Westchester Woman's Club of Mount Vernon, composed of some 240 members. The object of this society is "to form a recognized center for social and mental culture, to further the education of women for the responsibilities of life, to encourage all movements for the betterment of society and to foster a generous public spirit in the community." Mrs. Rathbun is also the President of the Westchester County Political Equality (Woman's Suffrage) Club and Treasurer of the New York State Spiritualist Association. She is also one of the founders of the Mount Vernon Hospital, being Chairman of the House Committee until the hospital was successfully in operation. She is a charter member of the Martha Wilson Home for Old Ladies, and served many years upon its Board of Managers. She is also actively engaged as a director of the People's Institute of Mount Vernon, and is President of a select Social Club. That Mr. Rathbun and his family were held in high esteem and that his memory is honored is evidenced by the fact that eight sets of resolutions, some of them handsomely engrossed, were forwarded to the family by leading organizations of Mount Vernon, and by the Milton Rathbun Company and the First Society of Spiritualists of New York City.

MINOT C. KELLOGG was born at New Canaan, Conn., December 17, 1834. He was the son of Matthew and Electa

(Crofoot) Kellogg; his ancestry dates back to Daniel Kellogg, who was born in 1638, and who was an early settler of Norwalk, Conn. Mr. Kellogg was educated in the public schools. He is president of the Patterson Bros. Co., of New York City, hardware merchants, president of the Bank of Mount Vernon, president of the Co-operative Building Bank, New York City, one of the trustees of the Eastchester Savings Bank and on the board of managers of Mount Vernon Hospital. He is in politics a Republican, is president of the board of trustees of the First Methodist Church, and a member of the Hardware Club, New York. On September 24, 1863, he was married to Emily E., daughter of Charles E. and Abigail Ann Disbrow, of Norwalk, Conn., who died in February, 1889, and on January 7, 1891, he was married to Miss Mary L. Tallmadge, daughter of the late William H. Tallmadge, of New Canaan, Conn. Mr. Kellogg is a gentleman of sterling worth and integrity, interested in everything that is for the good of the community and for the interests of mankind, he is refined and urbane in manner, a true friend in all the relations of life and discharges his various duties with loyalty and fidelity. He holds an enviable position in the esteem of his fellow citizens, to which he is eminently entitled, for his pure and honorable life is above reproach, and he is distinctly one of the prominent and leading residents of Mount Vernon.

CLARENCE STEWART McCLELLAN, a prominent business man, former postmaster and city treasurer of Mount Vernon, was born in that community on the 6th of May, 1860, being a son of Pelham L. and Sarah A. (Ferdon) McClellan. He is descended from the original Scotch ancestors, although the family has been a resident in this country for several generations. His great-grandfather, Hugh McClellan, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and his grandfather, William W. McClellan, a citizen of New Rochelle, was an attorney and served as Master of Chancery. Mr. McClellan's father was a lawyer and held the offices of Supervisor and District Attorney of Westchester County. He died in October, 1892. Clarence S. McClellan was educated in the public schools of Mount Vernon. In 1878, at the age of eighteen, he embarked in the real estate and insurance business, in which he still continues. In 1891 he associated with him Thomas R. Hodge, former Register of the County of Westchester, and the firm was continued under the name of McClellan & Hodge until January, 1903, when it was dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Hodge retiring. Mr. McClellan, in addition to his real estate business, has been closely identified in the organization and management of several large corporate interests in Westchester County. In the year 1889 he organized the People's Bank of Mount Vernon, with a capital of \$50,000, and he was elected its vice-president, which position he retained until he succeeded to the presidency in January, 1898, which office he still retains. On April 1, 1900, the People's Bank was converted from a State to a National bank, assuming the title of the "First National Bank of Mount Vernon, N. Y.," and its capital increased to \$100,000 and surplus \$50,000. The First National Bank of Mount Vernon is recognized as one of the leading banks in the county. In the spring of 1899, Mr. McClellan co-operated in the organization of the City Bank of New Rochelle, which was incorporated under the State laws and commenced business on July 10, 1899, with a capital of \$50,000 and surplus of \$5,000. In the year 1902, the City Bank of New Rochelle was re-organized under the National system, with a capital of \$100,000 and surplus of \$10,000. Mr. McClellan is one of its directors. He is also one of the directors of the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad. He is also executor and a administrator of several large estates, and has been appointed on a number of commissions by the Supreme



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Court Judges of his district. In politics Mr. McClellan has been identified since boyhood with the Democratic party. At the age of twenty-one he was elected School Trustee of District No. 4, of the old town of Eastchester. Later he served as village trustee, representing the third ward. At the first election held for choice of officers for the new city of Mount Vernon, (May, 1892), he was chosen city treasurer, continuing in that office until June, 1894. In April of the latter year he was appointed by President Cleveland, postmaster of Mount Vernon, having received the unanimous indorsement of his party organization. Since his retirement from the postmastership in August, 1898, he has devoted his time exclusively to his business interests.

MERWIN E. GENUNG was born in Coxsackie, N. Y., September 18, 1858. He was the son of Rev. B. M. Genung, a prominent Methodist Episcopal clergyman and member of the New York East Conference for thirty-five years. He was educated at the public schools and afterward at America Seminary; he had expected to take a collegiate course, but was prevented by the illness and subsequent death of his father. Shortly after leaving school, he went with Samuel Scott, at White Plains, a dry goods merchant, serving an apprenticeship of several years with him, during which time he was advanced from an errand boy's position to that of manager. After this he went to Portchester, N. Y. and started in business with Mr. Scott, where he remained for fifteen years, until the death of Mr. Scott, when he severed his connection with the firm. Mr. Genung had formed a friendship with a fellow clerk, John H. McArdle, which friendship had continued to exist, and when the opportunity offered they formed a co-partnership in 1897 under the firm name of Genung & McArdle. Representing the newer and more progressive element, they took the old store formerly occupied by Mr. John Berry, one of the most prominent and best-known merchants of Mount Vernon. This was a small store 25 x 100 feet; the new firm at once made radical changes to meet the demands of the time. They enlarged the store, bought property and have made only recently purchases of property on Fifth avenue. They now have the choicest property in the city, running from Fourth to Fifth avenue, with a frontage of 54 feet and extending back 210 feet, making it a very commodious and complete mercantile establishment, with a large and varied stock of goods. They have a branch store at Mamaroneck, which is under the supervision of Mr. McArdle, while the store in Mount Vernon is directly managed by Mr. Genung. The subject of this sketch is a conservative Republican in politics, never sought nor accepted office, believing it is better to do one thing well than many indifferently. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and belongs to the Royal Arcanum. He was married September 25, 1889, to Miss Louise Reynolds, of Greenwich, Conn. They have one daughter, Helen. Mr. Genung devotes himself with great assiduity to the details of his business, which is conducted with admirable system. He is a very agreeable, unobtrusive gentleman and has the happy faculty of winning friends and retaining them. He is kind, unaffected and approachable, and every one who has business with him receives his courteous attention. He has great faith in the future of Mount Vernon and is always ready to give his support to any measure that will inure to its development and benefit.

F. A. STRATTON, vice-president of the Westchester Lighting Company. Mr. Stratton is a native of the State of New York, but has lived much in the South, where he still has large property interests. He is now at the head of the Lighting Company furnishing both gas and electricity to nearly

all of Westchester County and part of New York City. Mr. Stratton modestly says the superior service his company is giving the people, and the business-like administration of its affairs, is due entirely to the valuable advice of the other officers of the company, together with the able and efficient assistance of the engineers of the different departments, and of the superintendents in the various divisions, with the loyal service of the employees generally, rather than to any executive ability which he may possess. Mr. Stratton, though not actively engaged in any other business, is interested in several other enterprises and various operations. Among others he is secretary and treasurer of the Dominion Coal Company, of Virginia; president of the Dominion Mining Company, of Virginia; secretary and treasurer of the McClure Coal Company; also a director in the Dumps Creek Coal, Land and Timber Company, the American Land Company, the Monte Vista Cemetery Company, the Watauga Lighting Company, the Johnson City Traction Company, and is financially interested in several others. Mr. Stratton is a member of the New Rochelle Yacht Club, the Siwanoy Country Club of Mount Vernon, and the Lotus Club of New York City.

HENRY C. JONES, M.D., was born in East Hartford, Conn., November 26, 1833, and received his education in the English and Classical School of that place and Conn. Literary Institution. He studied medicine in Hartford and graduated at the Worcester Medical College, Mass., 1856, and settled in the fall of that year, in Mt. Vernon, where he has remained from that time to the present. Dr. Jones has had in his day a very large and prominent clientele, but is now taking only a very limited practice. Dr. Jones in politics is a Republican, but he has always refused to be a candidate for any political office. In the village life of Mt. Vernon he was for a period a member of the Board of Education. He is at present and has been for a great many years a Director in the Bank of Mount Vernon, N. Y. Dr. Jones is a member of the Westchester County Homeopathic Medical Society and the American Institution of Homeopathy. He is a public spirited citizen, aiding all kinds of improvement for the good of the city and has been especially active in promoting educational interests. He is possessed of much general information, is a close student, a good business man, an agreeable acquaintance and a warm and abiding friend.

JOSEPH AGATE HOUSE, M.D., was born in New York City, January 8, 1856. He graduated at the Troy Academy and afterward at the Eclectic Medical College of New York in 1880, and affiliated with the Homeopathic School, in 1881. Dr. House has been a resident of Mount Vernon for ten years, and has practiced his profession with much success and distinction. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the Westchester County Medical Society and also of the New York Homeopathic Medical Society. He is not married. He is a gentleman of culture and refinement, courteous in manner, and deservedly popular. He is sincere in his friendship and is a conscientious, faithful, vigilant physician, and greatly esteemed.

II. EUGENE SMITH, M.D., was born in Jersey City, N. J., July 4, 1860. He is a son of the late Henry C. Smith, of Mount Vernon, who was prominently connected for many years with the Custom House, New York; removed to Mount Vernon in 1884, organized and was the first President of the People's Bank, now the First National Bank. He was an enthusiastic fireman, belonged to Mount Vernon Steamer Company, and was highly esteemed at the time of his death.

in 1890. Doctor Smith acquired much of his education in Public No. 18 and the old School No. 35, whose principal was Thomas F. Hunter. An association named after Mr. Hunter still exists and graduates therefrom comprise a number of prominent names, including financial, political and professional celebrities. Dr. Smith studied also in the college of the City of New York; after graduating he matriculated in the University Medical College of New York, 1880, and graduated with high honors in the class of 1883. After a hospital practice and career in the department of charities and correction for eighteen months, and wishing to travel he gratified his desire and went abroad and visited various hospitals and medical colleges in the old world. Upon his return from Europe he practiced his profession in New York City continuously until 1886, and then removed to Mount Vernon, where several of his family resided. Doctor Smith is a man of affairs. He is a member of a number of medical societies, including Westchester Medical Association, Jenkin's Medical Society, The Physicians' Mutual Aid Society, The American Medical Association, and the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States. He was assistant surgeon of the First Regiment, N. Y. N. G., and surgeon of the 11th Battalion until it disbanded. He is a member of the Masonic Order from Hiawatha Lodge, No. 434, F. and A. M. to Mecca Temple (Mystic Shrine), Royal Arcanum, Foresters, Order of Red Men, Loyal Legion (New York Commandery), Sons of Veterans, Azin Grotto of Veiled Prophets, the Elks, Knights of St. John and Malta and a member of the Y. M. C. A. He was elected to the Board of Education of Mount Vernon in 1889 by a large majority, and re-elected by an increased majority. Dr. Smith belonging to the Brotherhood of Bachelors, has naturally identified himself with club life and its environments. For many years he has been a member of the City Club of Mount Vernon, was its president several times; declined re-election and gave his warm support to his successor, Doctor Edward F. Brush, the present incumbent, although he remains on the Board of Governors. He is a member also of the Westchester Wheelmen, the Mount Vernon Turn Verein, and New York Athletic Club. He is steady and unwavering in his advocacy and support of the principles of Jeffersonian Democracy, has filled the position of police surgeon, and has been city physician, and since 1897 has been Health Officer. Doctor Smith is fond of music, a patron of the Mount Vernon Musical Society and the late Choral Society. Although much of his time is devoted to worldly pleasures and diversions, and his prominence in society, he is unobtrusively interested in church matters, and particularly in the Methodist Episcopal denomination. He is a man of large heart, generous and charitable in his impulses and genial and refined in nature. Having a pleasing address, his courtesy readily wins him friends whom his sterling virtues retain.

GEORGE C. WEISS, M.D., was born in Mount Vernon, May 20, 1861, he was educated in the local schools and graduated at the College of the City of New York and at the Bellevue Hospital Medical College. He has lived in the city during his entire life and is a Democrat in politics. He was House Surgeon of Charity Hospital in 1884, Health Officer of the city in 1887, City Alderman in 1895 and 1897, and President of the Board of Health in 1899. He is a member of the City Club of Mount Vernon, President of the Medical Association of Mount Vernon and environs and member of the Medical Society of Westchester County and of the State Medical Society; he is also a member of the Society of the Alumni of City (charity) Hospital, New York City. Dr. Weiss is prominently identified with the Mount Vernon Hospital, being Visiting Surgeon and a member of the Board

of Managers; he is one of the incorporators of the Training School for Nurses, connected with the hospital. When an officer of the city, he used his influence for its benefit and was sure to be found on the side of progress in everything that tended to promote the development and industries of the community. He has a large practice, stands high in his profession and discharges his duties with promptness and fidelity. He is broad-minded and liberal in his views and is popular with a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

JOHN LAWRENCE HUGHES, M.D., of Mount Vernon, N. Y., was born in the City of New York, October 20, 1876, he received his preliminary education at the Columbia Grammar School, New York; he then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of the Columbia University, New York, and graduated in the class of 1899. He was resident physician at the City (charity) Hospital, Blackwell's Island, from



JOHN LAWRENCE HUGHES, M.D.

1899 to 1901. He was resident physician at the New York Infant Asylum from 1901 to 1902. He is a member of the Society of the Alumni of City Hospital, also of the Medical Society of the County of Westchester. He has been a resident of Mount Vernon for five years, his residence and office are located at 21 Archer avenue, Chester Hill.

WILLIAM HENRY PURDY, M.D., was born at Harrison, Westchester County, N. Y. His early education was at the district schools of Harrison and Rye Neck, later at Chappaqua Mount Institute, then entered Bellevue Hospital Medical College, from which he graduated with honors. He has lived in Mount Vernon five years. Dr. Purdy's ancestor, Francis Purdy, came to this country in the year 1638 from Yorkshire, England, and was among the earlier settlers of Westchester County. His descendants lived in Harrison and other places in the county and also in Fairfield County, Conn. His great great grand-father was Caleb Purdy and married



HENRY C. FORDHAM.

Hannah Brown. His great grand-father was Elias Purdy and married Rachael Merritt, his grand-father was William Henry Purdy and married Hannah Purdy, his father was William Henry Purdy and married Mary Francis Purdy. One of the landmarks of Mount Vernon is the old Purdy homestead on the northeast corner of South Sixth avenue and West 4th street, which was owned by Sylvanus Purdy, grand-uncle of the subject of this sketch. The old Purdy farm-house is still in a fine state of preservation. Dr. Purdy is a prominent physician of Mount Vernon, was elected president of the Board of Health February, 1901, and is the present incumbent of the office. He is a member of the Protestant Episcopal church, the Westchester County Medical Society, Mount Vernon Medical Society, Royal Arcanum, Hiawatha Lodge, Bethlehem Commandery F. and A. M., and Mecca Shrine. He was married June 27, 1900, to Miss Grace Maud Bronson, daughter of Charles Randolph Bronson, of Bridgeport, Conn. She is a graduate of Emerson College of Oratory, Boston, Mass. She is a fine elocutionist and a lady of culture and refinement, and never so happy as when engaged in good and charitable deeds. Dr. Purdy is a refined, hospitable and courteous gentleman, simple and unaffected in manner, generous to all in distress, and is always ready to assist in every philanthropic and religious enterprise. He holds a leading place in his profession and society, and his personal honor and integrity are without blemish.

HON. ISAAC N. MILLS, lawyer and jurist, was born in Thompson, Conn., September 10, 1851. He is descended from a distinguished family of Rhode Island Quakers, old residents of that State, among whom was General Greene, of Revolutionary fame. Judge Mills entered Providence Conference Seminary, at Greenwich, R. I., to prepare for college; there he graduated in 1878, and then attended Amherst College. During his course there, he was distinguished for his excellence in the classics, philosophy, physiology and extemporaneous oratory; he graduated in 1874 and was the valetudinarian of his class. Subsequently he entered Columbia Law College, from whence he graduated in 1876, with many honors. He removed to Mount Vernon the same year and began the practice of law and became famous in his profession and has been connected with many important cases. In 1883 he was elected County Judge, and filled that position until 1895, with ability and impartiality. He is a staunch Republican in politics and is high and influential in the councils of his party, and an earnest advocate of its principles. He was elected State Senator in 1900, and renominated in 1902. He is Past Master of the Masonic Order, a Knights Templar, a member of the New England Society and the Sons of the Revolution. Judge Mills has pre-eminently a legal mind with an acute knowledge of human nature, well prepared for the consideration and decision of intricate points of law, and is chosen among the able jurists of the State. His interests in his clients' cases is unfailling, leaves nothing to uncertainties, but is always fully prepared and presents the evidence with convincing effect. By the strength of his personal character, his fidelity, uniform courtesy, unquestioned integrity and legal ability, he has won eminent distinction.

JOSEPH S. WOOD became a resident of Mount Vernon January 2, 1865. He has continued to be one ever since. He has had much to do with history of Mount Vernon. From the day he took up his residence here until now he has taken an active part in public affairs, and many of the improvements and benefits which the City enjoys are due to his energy and foresight. He came here as the principal of the schools of School District Number Four of the Town of East-

chester. This district included nearly all of the village of Mount Vernon, and several adjoining villages also. During the twelve years prior to January 1, 1865, it had had seven principals; and the schools were naturally in a disordered condition. From the day Mr. Wood took hold of them they improved and grew rapidly, so that on his retirement from their superintendence in 1876 it was generally conceded that the public schools of Mount Vernon were among the very best in the State. For the two years immediately preceding his residence in Mount Vernon Mr. Wood had been the superintendent of the Cooper Union in New York City; and for one year after he became the principal of the Mount Vernon school he still retained the principalship of the Cooper Union Night School. At that time he was only twenty-two years of age. On his retirement from the Cooper Union the trustees passed a resolution highly commending him for his successful administration of its many departments and for the improvements and extensions he had introduced. About the year 1865 the so-called Boulevard Ring was at the height of its power. It had almost all of Westchester County at its mercy. William M. Tweed was then all-powerful in New York City and State, and some of his satellites had taken up their residence in this vicinity. They were causing acts to be passed by the legislature in which Tweed's nod was sufficient, bonding the towns in the lower part of this county hundreds of thousands of dollars for macadamized roads, and the burden was greater than the taxpayers could bear. Mr. Wood determined to do what he could to stop the extravagance, corruption and fraud of this Boulevard Ring. In 1868 there was a little newspaper published in Mount Vernon by two young men, Arthur MacDonald, Jr., and Samuel Holdrege, both of whom had been pupils under Mr. Wood in the Mt. Vernon schools. As they wished to sell out their paper, Mr. Wood bought it. He enlarged and greatly improved it, and called it "The Chronicle." He took it to fight the Boulevard Ring and to advocate generally the interests of the people; and for twenty-five years, as long as he wielded his trenchant pen, "The Chronicle" was a power in Westchester County. The fight against the Boulevard Ring was a long and a bitter one, but "The Chronicle" won out. Mr. Wood then took up the demand for lower rates of fare on the New York and New Haven Railroad. At first his efforts were laughed at. Who had ever heard of a newspaper or a private individual compelling a gigantic railroad corporation to reduce its fares? But the fight went on. Year after year the struggle was renewed in the legislature, and finally, in 1873, the railroad came to terms and reduced its rates of fare. The commutation rates were reduced from \$95 a year to \$60, and the way fare from forty-five cents to thirty cents. Mainly for this achievement, but incidentally for other good works as well, about a hundred of the leading citizens of Mount Vernon, at a public meeting, presented Mr. Wood with a beautiful gold watch, in which is this inscription: "Presented to Joseph S. Wood by his friends as a token of their appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the Public. Mount Vernon, N. Y., May 5th, 1873." About the time this contest was brought to a happy issue, there was an era of extravagance and recklessness in the town government, especially among some of the justices of the peace. Tramps were sent to the county jail by the score every week, and in many cases, although sentenced for a month, they were back again and ready for recommitment in a very few days. For each commitment a justice of the peace received several dollars. Prominent among the justices of the peace at that time was Robert W. Edmonds, and for many years he proved himself so adroit a politician that it was impossible to get him out of office. His bills against the town for services were especially large,

and Mr. Wood, through "The Chronicle" and in public meetings, opposed them vigorously. One of the improvements which Mr. Wood persistently advocated was the making into a park of all the land between the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, Lincoln avenue, as it is now called, Fourth avenue and Crary avenue. Mr. Charles Crary offered to give a large part of the land and other landowners who owned parts of the proposed park offered to donate their land also. In fact, the entire plot could have been secured for \$60,000. Almost every progressive man in Mount Vernon favored the project, but the great majority voted it down. Mr. Wood also advocated securing a water-supply for Mount Vernon from the upper part of the Hutchinson River; but while the people were arguing over the question Mr. Adrian Iselin secured it and organized the New Rochelle Water Company. Shortly after this the Mount Vernon Water Company was organized, and an attempt was made to get a water-supply from an artesian well. The village however very soon outgrew the supply, and the company passed into the hands of outside capitalists. In 1876 Mr. Wood resigned the principalship of the Mount Vernon Public Schools to resume the study of law, which he had begun when superintendent of the Cooper Union, and in 1877 he was admitted to the Bar. As his business increased rapidly, he took in as a partner Mr. Isaac N. Mills, who had been a fellow-student with him at Columbia College Law School, and that partnership lasted six years. In 1877 Mr. Wood was elected as the School Commissioner of the First District of Westchester County, which office he held for three years. In 1878 Mr. Wood married Miss Susie E. Mixsell, and their home has ever since been a center of social and intellectual culture and enjoyment. They have been blessed with four children, two boys and two girls; but they lost the elder of the latter when she was in the tenth year of her age. About 1882 Mr. Wood and Mr. John Mullaly—who was one of the editors of the "New York Herald"—organized the movement which culminated in the creation of the Van Courtlandt, Bronx and Pelham Bay Parks. Mr. Mullaly wrote a series of articles in the "New York Herald" on the subject, and through a common friend, he and Mr. Wood were made acquainted with each other. At Mr. Wood's suggestion, it was resolved to organize a Park Association to put the project in practical shape. A parlor in the Fifth Avenue Hotel was secured and the invitations for a meeting thereat were prepared by Mr. Wood and were printed in the office of "The Chronicle." At the outset, the Bronx Park and the Parkways were not thought of. They were suggested later by Mr. Charles Crary. The only one of the three great parks which is twice as large as Van Courtlandt Park, wholly in the limits of New York City was Van Courtlandt Park, and nearly every member of the Park Association was a prominent citizen who resided or owned property in its vicinity. It was Mr. Wood who proposed the Pelham Bay Park, which is twice as large as Van Courtlandt Park, and which was then wholly outside the limits of New York City. Almost all the other members of the Park Association strongly opposed the Pelham Bay Park, saying it would kill the whole project to ask for it, but Mr. Wood was backed up by Mr. Crary and a few others, and ultimately won, by threatening to oppose the Van Courtlandt Park if the Pelham Bay Park were not included in the plan. When a commission was appointed by the legislature to report on the proposition, the Honorable Luther R. Marsh was made the chairman thereof; and as he had the foresight and breadth of view to realize the magnificent possibilities of Pelham Bay Park, he became one of its most enthusiastic advocates. The struggle lasted for several years, Mayor Grace and ex-Mayor Hewitt being among the most bitter opponents of the

project; but through the devotion of Messrs. Marsh, Wood and Mullaly, Pelham Bay Park was established as a part of the great park scheme of which New York City is now so justly proud. In 1885 Mr. Wood was the corporation counsel of the Village of Mount Vernon, and a short time later became the counsel for the Eastchester Savings Bank. Mr. Wood, in 1891, favored the organization of Mount Vernon as a city, and assisted in the making of the city charter. In 1886, when James G. Blaine ran against Grover Cleveland for the Presidency, there was a split in the Republican Party. In Mount Vernon it was wide and deep. Mr. Wood was one of the leaders of the Mugwumps and challenged the champions of the Republicans to a public debate. The challenge was accepted, and two nights for the debate were selected. On the first night his former partner, Judge Mills, was his adversary; on the second night the Rev. Oliver Dyer took up the cudgels for the Republicans. It is needless to say that the excitement was intense and that Fuller's Hall, where the debate took place, was crowded to its utmost capacity. Shortly after the city was created it became necessary to look for an additional water-supply, as the one on which the city had to depend was inadequate. A water commission was thereupon organized under a special act of the legislature, and Mr. Wood was made its counsel. The report of that body, which was very comprehensive and exhaustive, pointed out the way in which the city could secure an abundant supply of pure and potable water, and the water company was swift to carry out the commission's recommendations. The matter of an outlet sewer for the disposal of the sewerage by filter-beds or other means has been agitated by Mr. Wood for many years, and it now appears probable that an excellent plan for sewage disposal by a filter-bed will soon be carried out. In 1898 Mr. Wood was elected the president of the Board of Education, and through his knowledge of the Public School System was able to recommend many improvements. He earnestly favored the purchase of a tract of five acres for a children's playground, at a cost of \$25,000, but the people voted it down. In 1899 and 1900 Mr. Wood was the president of the Westchester County Bar Association. He has also been the president of the Mount Vernon Board of Trade and several other organizations. There has not been a year since Mr. Wood took up his residence in Mount Vernon wherein he has not taken an active part in public affairs. His voice and pen have always been found on the side of justice, economy, progress, reform and improvements. For several years past Mr. Wood has given a considerable part of his time and energy to securing for Mount Vernon additional transportation lines and facilities, realizing that in that way lies prosperity. He has been an outspoken champion for every extension and improvement to the trolley lines which would help Mount Vernon, likewise the New York and Portchester Railroad, and especially for the continuation of the rapid transit system of New York City to the Mount Vernon boundary line. This last named extension is now in a fair way to be realized. Mr. Wood graduated in 1861, with high honors, from the New York Free Academy—now the College of the City of New York—and has always taken an active part in its affairs and in those of the entire public school system of New York City. He is a member of many organizations, among them being the Reform Club, the New York Athletic Club, the Manhattan Chess Club, the Transportation Club, the City College Club, The City Club, the Siwanoy Club, the Westchester County Bar Association and the Bar Association of the City of New York.

CHARLES H. LOVETT, was born at Prattsville, Greene County, N. Y., September 26, 1857, being the only son of



JOSEPH S. WOOD.



CHARLES H. LOVETT.

Rev. Noble Lovett, of the New York M. E. Conference, now deceased. When fifteen years of age he commenced to support himself, learned a trade, and by working and teaching paid his way through school. He was educated at the New York Conference Seminary, and Collegiate Institute of the M. E. Church, at Charlotteville, N. Y., the State Normal School at Albany, the Law Department of Union College, and the University of the City of New York, graduating with honors, in 1880, and receiving the degree of LL.B. In May of the same year, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., he was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor at law in the State courts, and has since been admitted to practice in the U. S. Courts, in New York, New Jersey, and Washington. In 1880, he commenced the practice of his profession in the city of New York, and by his ability and faithful attention to the interests of his clients has built up a large and lucrative practice. While conducting a general litigated business he has given special attention to corporation, admiralty and surrogate's practice, and now holds an appointment from the State as Transfer Tax Appraiser for the County of Westchester. He has been frequently honored by the Courts, having had the distinction, within a period of two years, of receiving references in important matters from every Judge then on the Supreme Court bench, in New York County, and from the Surrogate of that County. On July 6, 1891, he married Miss Florence M. Mills, daughter of Edgar R. Mills, of Helena, Montana. Mr. Lovett lives with his wife, one son and two daughters at 271 Summit avenue, this city, and has a summer home at Atlantic Highlands, N. J., where he has large real estate interests. He has offices in the Post-Office building, this city, and at 150 Nassau street, New York City. He came to Mount Vernon, October 1, 1895, and has since taken an active interests in public affairs. In 1896, he represented the city in the Common Council, and in the first McKinley campaign was corresponding secretary of the McKinley League and president of the McKinley and Hobart Club. In 1900, he was elected to the Common Council by a large majority, being the only Republican city official elected in that year. During his term as Alderman, though his party was in the minority in the board, Mr. Lovett succeeded in uncovering serious irregularities in some of the city departments then under the control of his political opponents, and as a result of his fearless probing, and the resulting exposures, public feeling was aroused to such an extent that at the following election there was practically a political revolution, nearly every Republican on the city ticket being elected. In 1901, he was elected president of the Common Council, and had the Mount Vernon and several other delegations for the nomination for District-Attorney of his county. He is now serving his second term as president of the Republican Club of the City of Mount Vernon, is chairman of the Executive Committee of the Republican City Committee, and in 1902, was chairman of the Republican Campaign Committee. He is an exempt fireman, a member of the Chester Hill M. E. Church, and has associated himself with the Westchester County Bar Association, the Republican Club of the city of New York, the Board of Trade, the K. of P., the I. O. of O., the Royal Arcanum, and several other organizations.

ROLLAND B. ARCHER was born in the town of Eastchester, April 24, 1867; he was educated at the public schools of Mount Vernon, graduated from Bleecker and High street School at West Mount Vernon (known as the Fifth District School) in 1883, and subsequently graduated from Columbia College Law School in New York, in 1889, with degree LL.B. After graduating, was admitted to the bar on September 8, 1890, at Brooklyn; was managing clerk for Joseph A. Wood

until the spring of 1893, at which time he began the practice of law on his own account. In 1897 he received degree LL.M. from New York University. In politics he is a Republican, but has always declined offers of political preferment, as the same would interfere with his growing law practice. He has lived all his life in the town of Eastchester and Mount Vernon; he is a member of the Reformed Dutch Church, Republican Club, Westchester Bar Association, Clinton Hook and Ladder Company, New Rochelle Rowing Club, and of the Masonic fraternity. On September 8, 1898, he married Miss Josephine McIntosh; they have one son, Rolland B. Archer, Jr. Mr. Archer comes from an old and distinguished ancestry, is a leading attorney of Mount Vernon, highly popular not only with his colleagues, but among all classes. He is honorable and upright, with untailing courtesy to all with whom he comes in contact, and sincere in his friendships. He discharges his duties faithfully and conscientiously, and by his honorable course in life he has merited the confidence and esteem of all who know him.

JOHN M. SHINN, attorney and counselor at law, was born on October 25, 1849, at Dubuque, Iowa. His ancestors



JOHN M. SHINN.

came to the United States in 1648 and settled in New Jersey. He was educated at the High School, Waterloo, Iowa, Polytechnic Institute, St. Louis, Mo., National University of Washington, New York Law School, New York City, and the University Law School. He is a Republican in politics and quite active. He was Collector of Taxes, and is now Supervisor of the town of Pelham, and was chairman of the Board of Supervisors for two years. He has been a member of the Board of Education and principal of the Pelham Manor School. At Washington, D. C., he was in charge of the collection and tabulation of statistics relating to the Roman Catholic Churches for 1880. He is a member of the Republi-

can Clubs of the cities of New York, New Rochelle and Mount Vernon. He belongs to the Masonic Order, Royal Arcanum, Foresters and is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Pelham Manor. On October 20, 1876, he was married to Miss Isabelle King, formerly of London, England; there are three children living: Natalie F., Grace A. and John M., Jr. Mr. Shinn is a man of strict integrity and fine intelligence; he is particularly fitted for the profession which he has chosen to follow and his well known ability and public spirit have gained for him many admirers and friends.

FRANK M. BUCK, born October 27, 1859, Tarrytown, Westchester County, N. Y. Father, David Buck, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now living, age 92. Mr. Buck attended school at Drew Seminary, Carmel, Putnam County, N. Y., for four years, and graduated therefrom. He also attended the New York University Law School for two years, receiving his diploma in the year 1884. He was admitted to the bar and received his diploma as an attorney and counsellor at law in the year 1885. He opened an office in New York City at No. 229 Broadway, and continued there until 1889, when he formed a partnership with Milo J. White, and opened an office in Mount Vernon on the corner of Fourth avenue and First street. In 1886, Mr. Buck married Minnie L. Cline, of South Amenia, Dutchess County, N. Y., and the following year removed from New York City to No. 338 South Fifth avenue, Mount Vernon, buying the property from Morton L. Doremus. Mr. Buck has always been active in politics, being a staunch adherent of the Republican party. He has been at different times, Assistant District Attorney of this County, Deputy Attorney General, and has been for the past two years and is at this time, holding the position of Attorney for the State Comptroller in this county, in all proceedings pertaining to the collection of the Collateral, Inheritance, or Transfer Tax. Mr. Buck has two children, Franklin and Helen, aged respectively 14 and 8 years, and resides in a handsome house at No. 284 Rich avenue.

WILLIAM J. MARSHALL, Corporation Counsel of the city of Mount Vernon, was born in the town of Eastchester, May 10, 1858. His father was William Marshall, a native of New Rochelle, N. Y., and was one of the early settlers in Westchester County. The subject of this sketch pursued his studies in the public schools of Mount Vernon and was admitted to the bar at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., in May 1879, and has since been engaged in the successful practice of law. In June 1897 he was appointed Corporation Counsel for the city for a term of two years, and that is his present official position. He is a Democrat politically and has rendered effective service to his party. He married Miss Sadie E. Quirke, of Yonkers, N. Y., the daughter of Thomas Quirke, an influential and respected citizen of that place. Mr. Marshall is a good lawyer, a pleasant and agreeable gentleman, kind in manner, and has many friends. He is a progressive citizen and may be counted on for his share in whatever is proposed for the welfare of the community.

CHARLES WATERS SINNOTT, attorney at law, member of the firm of Ferguson & Sinnott (with offices at 41 Park Row New York), is a native of New York City and was born September 18, 1877. His father, Thomas Sinnott, was an old resident and merchant of New York City; his mother, Maria T. Waters, was the daughter of Charles Waters, one of the first trunk and leather goods manufacturers in New York. Mr. Sinnott attended school in New York, moved to Mount Vernon in 1886 and was five years in public school here, and

upon graduation entered Fordham College in 1891, whence he graduated in 1896 with degree of A. B. He received Hughes medal for competitive examination in mental and moral philosophy. He then entered New York Law School in September, 1896, to pursue his studies, and in 1898 received degree of LL.B., and was admitted to the bar of the State of New York the same year. He was managing clerk for the law firm of Sheehan & Collin, of New York, the senior member of the firm being Lieutenant-Governor Wm. F. Sheehan, and Chas. A. Collin, formerly legal adviser to Governor Hill and Flower. He remained with this firm for three years and in 1899 formed a partnership with Wm. A. Ferguson, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They conduct the practice of their profession with much success and have been engaged in many important cases, among others the famous Fiske-Brush election contest for Mayor of Mount Vernon, representing the Hon. Edwin W. Fiske, and were successful in sustaining his election after a



CHARLES WATERS SINNOTT.

hard legal contest. Mr. Sinnott received the degree of Master of Arts from Fordham College, in 1899; he was appointed acting City Judge and served in that capacity for nine months. He is a Democrat in politics, is a member of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church of Mount Vernon, Royal Arcanum, Knights of Columbus, Westchester County Wheelmen and Siwanoy Country Club. On April 23, 1902, he was married to Elsie Marie Ofenstein, who is the grand-daughter of Jacob Weimar, one of the pioneers of Mount Vernon. Mr. Weimar resided here since 1853, and was famous as an inventor of locks and combinations for large safes and bank vaults. He was for fifty years with the Herring-Hall Safe Company, of New York. Mr. Sinnott is a gentleman of integrity and honor, with a perfect appreciation of the higher ethics of life; is a good citizen, prominent in society and is a staunch and loyal friend.



COLIN MACKENZIE.



CHARLES W. STRAUB.

HON. SYDNEY ALLEN SYME, attorney at law, Lucas building, was born in New Orleans, La., July 16, 1876. His mother was an Allen and came of an old New Orleans family of that name; his grandfather was Dr. James Syme, of Scotland, physician to the late Queen Victoria, and his grandmother, a Cooper, was the grand-daughter of the illustrious



HON. SYDNEY ALLEN SYME.

James Fenimore Cooper. Mr. Syme attended the schools at New Orleans, and at twelve years of age he came north and finished his preparatory education at the Barnard Military School in New York, then graduated at Princeton College, class of '95; afterward attended the New York Law School, graduating in 1897 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, and in 1898 he took a post-graduate course, receiving the degree of Master of Laws. He was admitted to the bar in April of the same year and commenced the practice of law in New York City in co-partnership with Senator Russell. He moved to Mount Vernon and is now practising his profession in this city. In November, 1902, he was elected Justice of the Peace on the Democratic ticket, notwithstanding the almost general triumph of the Republican ticket at that time. In January, 1903, he was appointed Acting City Judge of Mount Vernon. Mr. Syme is a member of the Church of the Ascension (Protestant Episcopal), of the Westchester County Bar Association, Siwanoy Country Club, Westchester County Wheelmen, Mount Vernon Turn Verein, Royal Arcanum, Hiawatha Lodge No. 434, F. & A. M., Wausegan Encampment No. 1, O. D. O., and has been, secretary of the Democratic City Committee of Mount Vernon for the last four years. Mr. Syme was married in 1895 to Neva V. Lary, of New York City. He does general civil practice of law and has acquired a large clientele. Personally he is very popular and a bright future awaits him.

ELMER PLATT SMITH, attorney and counselor at law, with offices at 45 Broadway, New York City, was

born at Rocky Point, on the north shore of Long Island, in 1865. When he was about ten years of age his parents moved to Port Jefferson, at that time a noted shipbuilding town. His father, Brewster P. Smith, was a sea captain, and while a young boy, Mr. Smith spent much of his time on the sea. After finishing the public school, he went on the water for a time, and then attended Williston Seminary, Easthampton Mass., where he prepared for college. He was graduated by Amherst College in the class of '92 with the degree of B. S. In order to secure the benefits of a higher education he was obliged "to work his way" through college. He was active in athletics, especially football. He is a member of the Greek Letter Fraternity, Theta Delta Chi. He represented his class in the College Senate, and also as its church committeeman throughout his course. While there he joined the "Student Slum Movement," spending his vacation in the rescue work and studying the social needs and conditions of the so-called "slums" of our great city. After receiving the degree of LL.B. from Union University Law School at Albany he came to New York and in 1894 was admitted to the bar. During the following year he came to Mount Vernon and has since that time resided here. He has been engaged in the general practice of law, including admiralty, and has steadily gained for himself a good practice and the high respect of both the bench and bar, as well as the esteem of those with whom he has been thrown in contact. He is a member of the Westchester County Bar Association, the First M. E. Church, Hiawatha Lodge F. & A. M., Mount Vernon



ELMER PLATT SMITH

Chapter R. A. M., Bethlehem Commandery K. T., and the Mystic Shrine, and Royal Arcanum. Mr. Smith was married at Port Jefferson, in 1895, to Miss Sara R. Terry, daughter of Griffin Terry, deceased. He has two children, Elmer Gillam, born in 1897, and Edna B., born in 1900. Mr. Smith is per-



City Hall, Lucas Building
Common Council Chamber
City Hall, Lucas Building, from First Street



CLARENCE S. MCCLELLAN.



JAMES L. REYNOLDS.

sonally a genial, whole-souled man of exemplary virtues. He is a true and valued friend, one prompt and reliable in his business relations.

DAVID SWITS, of Mount Vernon, former corporation counsel of that city was born in Schenectady, N. Y., February 18, 1863. His ancestors emigrated to the United States from Holland and were among the early settlers of the 18th century in Schenectady. His father was David Swits of the old Eaton & Gilbert Car Manufacturing Company of Troy, N. Y. He died in 1888. His mother's name was Harriet Hoyt. Mr. Swits is directly descended from an old Westchester County family, which came from Connecticut soon after the Revolution, long resident in the town of Lewiston, and is still represented in the county by numerous collateral branches. Mr. Swits received his education in the public schools and graduated from the seminary at Canaan, Conn., in 1881.



DAVID SWITS.

He then went to New York City and entered Columbia College Law School and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1884. He was admitted to the bar just after the completion of his 21st year. In 1885 he removed to Mount Vernon and formed the law co-partnership of Lawler & Swits. This firm was dissolved in 1889 and Mr. Swits has since practiced alone. He enjoys a well earned reputation for ability and success at the Westchester bar and is held in high esteem. In 1893 he was appointed by Mayor Brush, corporation counsel of Mount Vernon. In this important official position he served with great credit and efficiency for five years. His political affiliation has always been with the Republican party and has frequently been a delegate to the party conventions. Mr. Swits is one of the board of governors of the City Club of Mount Vernon, is a member of the Foresters, Odd Fellows, the Westchester Bar Association, the New York League of Republican Clubs, and the Mount Vernon

Cycle Club. He is also a member of the Dutch Reformed Church. He was married to Hester A. Oakley, daughter of the late Thomas Oakley, of Mount Vernon. They have a high social position in the community.

STEPHEN J. STILWELL was born on a farm near Yonkers, N. Y., on the 10th day of May, 1866; his mother still occupies the old homestead. He is descended on both sides from illustrious Revolutionary stock. He received his education in the district schools at and near Yonkers, and when thirteen years of age became a clerk in a real estate office in Mount Vernon and later went on the road as a harness salesman, but his ambitious tendency was always toward the profession of law. He began the study of law with the firm of Van Dusen and Taylor, prominent attorneys of New York City, and entered the New York University Law School, graduating in the class of 1887. Afterward he removed to Mount Vernon and began the practice of law in a co-partnership with Jared Sanford, at that time president of the village, but has practiced alone since 1891, and now has pleasant offices in the Chronicle building, No. 25 South Fourth avenue. Mr. Stilwell is widely known in the profession; he is both counsellor and advocate and has had many cases of more or less importance, in which he has met with marked success. He is a member of the Masonic Order, the Foresters, the Knights of St. John and Malta, Tammany Society of New York City, City Club of Mount Vernon, and the Chippewa Club of Westchester. He is a Democrat in politics, but has never held office, having no leaning toward political preferment; he is one of the stewards and trustees of Olin M. E. Church of Williamsbridge. He was married in February, 1887, to Miss Celia A. Blanck, of New York; they have two children, Eugenia B., and Edna. Mr. Stilwell, in his practice, is painstaking and laborious in obtaining fully the facts from his clients, and untiring in his efforts to look up the law with determination to state his cases in clear argument to the judge and jury. He works with ingenuity and energy and his motto is "Never Say Die." He is an extremely affable and courteous gentleman, is highly esteemed, honorable and upright in all things, with a genuine kindness of heart, and is most popular not only with his colleagues, but with the community at large.

COL. HENRY HUSS, a distinguished citizen of Mount Vernon, was born at Fürth, Bavaria, Germany, on the 18th day of February, 1841. He is descended from one of the oldest families in Germany and traces his genealogy through three branches of the family from the years 1370, 1373 and 1382 to 1841. His father, Anthony Henry Huss, came to New York in 1846, when the subject of this sketch was a boy, and then removed to Bridgeport, Conn. Colonel Huss located at Mount Vernon in 1867 and he has resided here ever since. He was President of the village in 1880 and 1881, having been previously one of the Trustees of the village for several years. He was President of Mount Vernon Hospital five years and one of its founders, and afterward elected an Honorary Member of the same for life. He was one of the Supervisors of the town of Eastchester and, while acting in that capacity, made the office self-sustaining, and he was appointed Postmaster of the city of Mount Vernon by President Harrison in 1888 and conducted the office with marvellous success. The receipts of the office for the first year of his occupancy were \$21,000, the second year, \$27,000, the third year, over \$40,000, at which time it was promoted to the rank of a first-class office; the fourth year, under his administration, the net profit to the U. S. Government was \$36,000. The percentage of expense was 27 and the percentage of profit

73, and it made the best showing of any post-office of the same class in the State of New York, thus making an exceptionally good record. Col. Huss has also been President of the Board of Trade and has been closely identified with nearly every movement for the benefit of the community in which he resides. He was a gallant soldier of the Civil War, having enlisted in the 17th Regiment of Connecticut, commanded by Col. W. H. Noble. He was an officer at various periods of his military career on the staffs of Generals Jno. F. Hart-



COL. HENRY HUSS.

vanft, of Penna.; Jno. C. Robinson, of N. Y.; Adams, of Mass.; Lawler, of Ill., and Warner, of Penna.; and received by letter and orally from each much commendation for his meritorious conduct. He fought with great gallantry in the battles of Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg and was a participant in the battles of Forts Wagner and Sumpter, S. C., and in the Florida campaign. He was First Lieutenant of Company B, 3d Regiment, of Westchester County, under Col. John G. Fay, promoted to Captaincy and subsequently promoted to the Lieutenant-Colonelcy 27th Regiment, N. G., S. N. Y. He was on the Fifth Division Staff, commanded by Major-General James W. Husted. On the disbanding of the division, the staff was rendered supernumerary and Col. Huss reports annually to the Adjutant-General of the State as Chief of Ordnance. He is Commander of the William T. Minor Post No. 85, Department of Conn. G. A. R. He was offered from the authorities at Washington an appointment of Colonel of the Westchester County Volunteer Regiment during the late war with Spain, which, for personal reasons, he was obliged to decline. He was the prime mover in the erection of the Soldiers' Monument, located on the square at the intersection of Valentine and Seventh avenues, which was dedicated on Memorial Day, 1891, with great ceremony and eclat. He was married on the 12th day of December, 1866, to Miss Mary B. Busch, of New York, a very exemplary and

accomplished lady; they have five children: Wm. H., Laura E., Weimar, Max F., Henrietta Bang, and Henry, Jr. Col. Huss is now engaged in the real estate business in New York City and devotes his attention thereto. He is an upright man, a good counsellor and a worthy citizen and has the entire confidence of the community.

DANIEL LEWIS is the son of Andrew D. Lewis, of Mamaroneck, and Emily Devoe, of Greenburgh, Westchester County, and the date of his birth was January 15, 1846. He attended the district schools at Yonkers; he did not graduate, but commenced work as a boy of nine years of age. He was a painter and decorator until 1873, and since that time has been in the printing and stationery business. He has been for thirty-two years a resident of Mount Vernon. He belongs to the Republican party and takes an active interest in its affairs. He was Supervisor in the Second Ward of Mount Vernon in 1895, by appointment under Mayor Edson Lewis; he was elected in 1896 for the full term of two years and refused a renomination. He is a member of the Republican Club of Mount Vernon, and an attendant of the First Methodist Church, is a member of all the Masonic fraternities, from Blue Lodge to Mystic Shrine, and honored by election to the highest offices in several of them. He was married on May 1, 1869, to Miss Mary C. Brown, who died, and on June 6, 1894, he was married again and to Miss Hattie L. Craft; they have one child, Gladys. Mr. Lewis is an honored citizen of



DANIEL LEWIS.

Mount Vernon, and has always taken a deep interest in the affairs of the city and his opinions are invariably held in respect. He is honest and upright in all his transactions. He is a progressive business man and has the high esteem of every one.

STEPHEN VAN TASSEL is a native of White Plains, where he was born June 13, 1864, the son of Bruce Van Tas-



STEPHEN J. STILWELL.



Residence of Mayor Edwin W. Fiske.

sel, a mason and builder. He received his education at the county seat. He is descended from one of the oldest families in Westchester County and those who have read Washington Irving's "Legend of Sleepy Hollow," will recall the Van Tassel name. His first employment was that of a messenger boy, then became a telegraph operator and afterward made assistant station agent at Woodlawn Junction. Later he was selected, because of his expert knowledge, to inaugurate the famous Sykes Interlocking Block System on this division of the New York Central Railroad. In 1885 Mr. Van Tassel was promoted to the position of Assistant Station Master at White Plains. In 1887 he was appointed agent of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad at Mount Vernon. In this responsible position he has always given eminent satisfaction to patrons and employers alike. In June, 1896, Mayor Edwin W. Fiske appointed Mr. Van Tassel a Police Commissioner and in attending to the duties of that office he



STEPHEN VAN TASSEL.

made an enviable record. In May, 1898, he was elected a member of the Board of Supervisors from the Second Ward of Mount Vernon. In 1900 he was again elected with the support and approval of both political parties. On the Good Roads Committee he was especially active and he gave much satisfaction. He was selected to serve as Secretary to one of the foremost committees at the last State Convention of Good Roads held at Albany, N. Y. The record is that Mr. Van Tassel has always been a hard-working, painstaking public servant. He is clean, honorable and competent, and this applies to every position he has held. He was married October 12, 1896, to Mary Alice Miller, daughter of Ex-Register Joseph O. Miller, of Mount Kisco. They have had three children: S. Rollin (deceased), Joseph O. M., and Zillah. Mr. Van Tassel stands high socially, is a staunch Democrat and is Chairman of the City Democratic Committee. He is Regent of Golden Rod Council, Royal Arcanum; a member of the

Mount Vernon Turn Verein, the City Club, and belongs to the First M. E. Church. Mr. Van Tassel is a man of pure life, very popular and has an extensive acquaintance. He possesses a fine physique, is affable, courteous and genial in manner and is a great favorite in all circles. The success he has achieved in life is certainly well deserved.

JAMES L. REYNOLDS was born in Greenwich, Conn., and educated in the public schools there. He is a merchant, engaged in general marketing, with stores at 126 and 128 South Fourth avenue, Mount Vernon; 274 Main street, New Rochelle; 54 Railroad avenue and another at 107 and 109 Railroad avenue, White Plains, N. Y. He started business in Mount Vernon in 1878, in New Rochelle in 1885, and in White Plains in 1889 and enjoys a large and growing trade in each place. Mr. Reynolds is a self-reliant man and has been his own architect of his successful career. With little or no capital he started in business and by his industry, energy and ability succeeded in gaining the front rank among the best known merchants in Westchester County. He lives in a well-appointed residence in New Rochelle with capacious grounds beautified by nature and art, where he dispenses hospitality with a bountiful hand. In all his dealings he displays strict integrity and honesty; enjoys a reputable character and never forgets to be a courteous and conservative gentleman.

COLIN MACKENZIE was born at Searsboro, Canada, May 14, 1848. He is of Scotch ancestry. He was educated in the public schools. He is an architect, was formerly a builder and carpenter for seventeen years. He is now Receiver of Taxes for the city of Mount Vernon, where he has resided for thirty three years, to which office he was elected in 1901, to serve until November, 1903. He is a Republican in politics and enjoys the confidence of his party and the community at large. On December 17, 1871, he was married to Miss Margaret Aitken, of Mount Vernon. Mr. MacKenzie is a quiet, unpretending citizen, without a flaw in his character or a spot upon his reputation. He is true to his friends and steadfast and courageous in the performance of his duties.

CHARLES WILLIAM STRAUB, City Treasurer, is a native of Mount Vernon and was born December 6, 1857. He attended and was educated in the public schools. He was with R. H. Macy & Co., the well-known merchants of New York, and afterward with Carpenter & Pettengill, coal dealers, for seventeen years. He engaged in his present business as grocer at 114 West Lincoln Avenue, Mount Vernon, June 1, 1898. He was elected City Treasurer in 1901. He is a Republican, a member of the 4th Ward Republican Association, and was for three terms a member of the Republican City Committee and has been an active and steadfast adherent of his party. He is a member of the Chester Hill M. E. Church. He was married to Mary A. Oakley, daughter of the late Thomas Oakley. Mr. Straub is a capable and good business man, self-reliant and enterprising, and has achieved a high degree of success. He is kind, unaffected and approachable and every one, receives his courteous attention.

MARK D. STILES, though not "to the manner born," came to Mount Vernon twenty-two years ago, and, with an intermission of six years, has lived here continuously since. His paternal ancestry include participants in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War, in addition to those active in the church, at the bar and in public councils; while his mother was a lineal descendant of John Hancock, the first signer of the Declaration of Independence. One of his best known forefathers was the Rev. Ezra Stiles.

D.D., LL.D., who was president of Yale College from 1772 until his death in 1795. Mr. Stiles was born in Minnesota in 1860. After the death of his father, a soldier in the Civil War, in 1863, he was taken to Vermont, where he passed his youthful days on a farm, and received his education in the district schools. In 1876 he became a student at the Academy of Design in New York City, where he received honorable mention in the class of '77-'78, besides exhibiting for several years in the Academy exhibitions. In 1890 he engaged in the business of publishing art works, and in the manufacture of art goods and novelties. The Ullman Manufacturing Company, of which Mr. Stiles is vice-president and a director, is a successful organization with about four hundred employees; indeed, it is probably the largest concern of its kind in this country. Mr. Stiles is an esteemed citizen, active in promoting the best interests of the community. He is a deacon and trustee of the First Baptist Church, a member of the Royal Arcanum, of Hiawitha Lodge, F. & A. M., of the Siwanoy Country Club, of the Republican Club, and an associate member of Farnsworth Post, G. A. R. He is one of the proprietors, and has editorial direction of the *Daily Argus*, a local newspaper mentioned elsewhere in this volume. He is also a director in the Bank of Mount Vernon, and one of the incorporators of the Mount Vernon Trust Company, besides being, as he has been for three years, chairman of the Republican City Committee. Mr. Stiles is public-spirited, liberal and broad-minded; he believes the creed of his party and, believing it, defends it manfully and has the courage of his convictions. Any course he may pursue in relation to public affairs, one may be quite sure is dictated by conscientious motives. Mr. Stiles' home on Primrose avenue is a unique and striking example of picturesque architecture, and there he and his charming wife are frequently hospitable hosts to delighted guests.

FRANKLIN ASBURY MERRIAM was born June 7th, 1857 at Aurora, Ills. His ancestors were among the earliest settlers of the State of Connecticut, being recorded as land owners in that state as early as 1640. During the American Revolution they took a very active part on the side of the colonies, eight of them serving in the Continental Army. Early in life his parents moved to Lockport, N. Y., and subsequently to Newark, N. J., where he received his education. Shortly after attaining his majority, he entered the printing and publishing business and up to 1888 was connected with the *Ithaca* (N. Y.) *Daily Journal*. In that year his health failed and he was compelled to give up active business. In 1891 on regaining his health in a measure, he entered the office of the *Daily Argus* of Mount Vernon, N. Y. as General Superintendent. In the Fall of 1897 he purchased the interest of Henry O. Sniffen in the *Argus* and assumed the business management of the paper. Under his energetic, but conservative direction the paper was placed on a firm financial basis and has become one of the leading Journals of Westchester County. Mr. Merriam has resided in Mount Vernon for fifteen years; is a Republican in politics and is one of the Charter Members of the Republican Club of Mount Vernon; he is also Treasurer of The Westchester County Press Association and an attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church. On February 6th, 1891 he married Eva Belle Sickels of Newark, N. J.; they have one daughter, Ethel Carolyn B. Mr. Merriam is the oldest journalist in Mount Vernon, thoroughly understands his business and is capable and energetic in his business methods, he is a man of sterling worth and irreproachable character and is one of the most respected citizens of Mount Vernon.

COL. CORNELIUS McLEAN, of Mount Vernon, was born in New York City, June 10, 1841. His ancestry is old and

distinguished. He is one of the descendants of William McLean, of McLean Island, Stamford, Conn., who died in 1749. He is also descended from James Hammond, a native of Westchester County, N. Y., who was commissioned Lieut.-Colonel of the 1st Regiment of that county militia, October 19, 1775, and re-appointed to that position June 16, 1778. Col. McLean is the grandson of Cornelius McLean and Hannah Hammond; great grandson of James Hammond, and son of James Monroe McLean, former President of the Manhattan Life Insurance Company, of New York, first Vice-President of the Union Trust Company and connected as director or otherwise with many large financial institutions. He died May 13, 1890, universally mourned and respected. The subject of this sketch was educated in the grammar school of New York. He is Commander of the John A. Rawlin's Post, G. A. R., No. 80, department of New York; Captain on the Honorary Staff of the Old Guard of New York; life member of the Army of the Potomac; member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston, Mass. He was Lieutenant of the 42d New York Volunteers; private, Sergeant and Lieutenant in command of a company in 39th New York Volunteers; Lieut.-Colonel on the Staff of Governor Stoneman, of California; Lieut.-Colonel on Department Staff, G. A. R., of New York, under Commander Atkinson, and rank of Colonel on National Staff, G. A. R., 1896-97. He is a member of the Sagamore Club of New York and of the Indian Harbor Yacht Club. He was married to Rebecca Hyslop, of New York, who died in 1880, and was married again in 1883 to Leslie A. Eagar, an accomplished lady of beautiful characteristics, devoted to works of charity and benevolence, and to all that is conducive to the amelioration and benefit of mankind. Col. McLean served his country with fidelity in the Civil War, was in the Army of the Potomac and was engaged in many of the conflicts in which that grand military organization participated. He has retired from business, is fond of athletic sports, and is particularly devoted to yachting. He lives in a fine residence in Mount Vernon and is surrounded with every comfort. He is a gentleman of the old school—physically a man of fine stature and presence. He is genial, refined and hospitable and possesses those features of heart and mind which endear him to his friends and to those who know him well and intimately.

WILLIAM H. MENDEL was born in New York City and was educated in the public schools. In politics he is a Democrat, although not active. He was ticket agent at the Grand Central Railroad Station, New York City, for twenty years, and fifteen years ago succeeded his father in the package department at the same station, which business he is now conducting with great success. He is the proprietor of the lunch room, as well as the fruit, candy and flower stands at the Grand Central Station he is also proprietor of a bakery at No. 5 Vanderbilt avenue, opposite, and of a confectionery store at No. 51 East 42d street. All of these enterprises receive much of Mr. Mendel's personal attention and are under his immediate direction. Mr. Mendel has resided in Mount Vernon for the past ten years; he is one of the owners of the New York Infant Asylum property in the suburbs, which is to be developed in the summer of 1903, and he is also interested in the Alameda Park Tract lying in the outskirts of the city. He is a member of the Siwanoy Country Club of Mount Vernon, and of the Church of the Ascension (Episcopal). Mr. Mendel is married and his wife is quite active in the affairs of the Westchester Woman's Club of Mount Vernon. Their residence at No. 145 Summit avenue is very commodious and handsome. He is a successful business man and a public-spirited citizen.



FRANKLIN A. MERRIAM.



GEORGE C. WEISS, M. D.

ADOLPH WILLIAM WALLANDER was born in Sweden, May 7, 1854, and emigrated to the United States. He received his education in the public schools of his native country. He has been a resident of Mount Vernon sixteen years. He is a Republican in politics; was appointed by Mayor Brush as Fire Commissioner in 1894 and re-appointed by



ADOLPH WILLIAM WALLANDER.

Mayor Lewis in 1896. He was elected Alderman of the Fifth Ward of the city in 1897 and served the regular term of two years; was re-elected Alderman for the short term in 1901, and again elected for the regular term in 1902 to serve until November 15, 1904. He is a member of the City Club of Mount Vernon and also a member of the Church of the Ascension (Protestant-Episcopal). He was married in 1875 in San Francisco, California, to Miss Amanda Christina Lunell. They have five children, four daughters and one son. Mr. Wallander is a very prominent merchant tailor with an elegant store on 5th Avenue, New York City, near the Union League Club; his customers are of the best character and he does an extensive trade, both domestic and foreign. He is devoted to his business, but finds time to closely identify himself with all plans for the social, moral and financial elevation of the community in which he lives. He is a gentleman of good business ability, shrewd common sense and stands deservedly high among his fellow-citizens.

GEORGE W. BARD was born in Mount Vernon July 22, 1861. He entered the public schools and graduated in the High school in 1877. From 1879 to 1881, he was actively engaged in the real estate, auctioneering and insurance business, in Mount Vernon. In 1881, he entered into the high-grade advertising business, traveling throughout the United States and Canada. In 1884, he was appointed special agent and inspector for the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of New York; his duties were very responsible and required great tact and discretion in their administration; he developed into a prominent insurance adjustor and his services have frequently been called upon in difficult insurance appraisements. In 1889, he returned to Mount Vernon, when a boom in real estate was pending and he planned and executed many methods of advertising, whereby the city and its advantages became widely known, and it largely owes its remarkable

development and progress to the efforts, sagacity and prescience of this gentleman. Everything that would materially aid in the promotion of enterprise and advantage for the public good was advocated by him, and his untiring activity achieved much renown for the city, and his name and reputation have been contemporaneous with its remarkable growth. Mr. Bard is a staunch Republican in politics, a prominent Mason, Knight Templar and Shriner. He is thoroughly in touch with the subject of masonry and has been the recipient of many medals and honors, and tokens of the highest esteem. He is a member of the Republican Club of Mount Vernon and the Royal Arcanum. On October 24, 1888, Mr. Bard was married to Madge M. Watts of New York. They have three children, all daughters: Marjorie Mai, Hazel Lodice, and Harriet Beatrice; the family occupy a high position in social circles in this city. Public spirited in a high degree, engaging in his manners, versatile in his business methods, Mr. Bard



GEORGE W. BARD.

has ever been loyal to his native city, and it owes as much to him as to any other man for its growth and stability. He is still actively and successfully engaged in the real estate and auctioneering business in the city of Mount Vernon.

THEODORE TAYLOR was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1853. He went to Mount Vernon with his parents in 1861, and was educated in the public school of that place. He entered the hardware business at an early age in New York City, and after six years became associated with Pottier and Stymus Manufacturing Company, one of the most extensive furniture manufacturing companies in the United States, with whom he remained about seventeen years. Entering as stock clerk, he soon rose by rapid promotion until he became manager of the factory, and in 1888 became secretary of the company, which position he held until the plant was destroyed by fire. He then withdrew from the company. In

1886 he became interested in the laundry business in Mount Vernon, establishing one of the first laundries in Westchester County, which has rapidly grown. He employs about eighty hands and does the largest business in that part of New York. Politically Mr. Taylor is a Republican. He was elected as one of the first aldermen of Mount Vernon after its incorporation as a city. He was chairman of the Street Committee, and was appointed one of the Civil Service Commissioners and helped to organize the first Civil Service Board of the city. In 1895 he was appointed one of the first Police Commissioners, and was for three years president of the board. He was a member of the Clinton Hook and Ladder Company about twenty years, and in 1889-90 was chief of the Fire Department. He is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, Exempt Firemen's Association, City Club, Republican Club, of which he is one of the trustees. He is also a member of



THEODORE TAYLOR.

Hiawatha Lodge No. 434, F. & A. M.; Minnehaha Lodge No. 227, O. E. S.; Mount Vernon Chapter No. 228, R. A. M.; Phoenix Council No. 701, R. & S. M.; Wauregan Encampment, O. D. O.; Mecca Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.; Bethlehem Commandery, K. T.; and Royal Arcanum. Mr. Taylor was married in 1890. He has two children, Theodore Clinton and Herbert Vernon Taylor.

THEODORE GOULD, deceased, was born in Mount Vernon, December 12, 1851. He was the only son of George and Sarah Gould, who emigrated from England to the United States and who were among the earlier settlers of Mount Vernon and very prominent and distinguished citizens. The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools of Mount Vernon, and when reaching manhood, engaged in the hotel and livery business, owning and conducting the Mount Vernon Hotel, an old and well-known hostelry. He resided in this city until 1884, when, on account of impaired health, he removed to Sullivan County, N. Y. In politics Mr. Gould

was a conservative Democrat. He was a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, being baptized by the Reverend Dr. Coffee of St. Paul's Church, Eastchester. He took great interest in the fire department of Mount Vernon and was a member of the Clinton Hook and Ladder Co. He was



THEODORE GOULD.

married Sept. 28, 1875, to Miss Louise S. Sageman, of Mount Vernon, an estimable and cultured lady, whose ancestors were well known and illustrious and among the oldest and most esteemed residents of Westchester County. There were born to them three children, two of whom are living: George C. Gould and Lillie M. Gould. Mr. Gould died in Liberty, Sullivan County, Sept. 28, 1896, and was sincerely mourned by his relatives and friends. He is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery.

HENRY CARLOS FORDHAM, the founder and publisher of the Mount Vernon Daily Eagle, became a resident of this city in June, 1895. He resigned his position with the American News Company, of New York City, to assume the position of reporter on a suburban weekly, the Mount Vernon News, in June of that year. He did this because he wanted to learn the newspaper business thoroughly, and recognized that there was no place in which to do this like the office of a weekly in the country or suburbs. Mr. Fordham, who was born May 3, 1870, in Astoria, L. I., is the oldest son of former School Commissioner Charles W. Fordham, of Bay Shore, L. I., and Mrs. Jennie Blossom Fordham, of Cleveland, O. After going through the country grammar school, Mr. Fordham entered a college preparatory school at New Haven, Conn., and later became a student at Hudson River Institute, at Claverack, N. Y. Later, after passing the entrance examinations, he became a member of Columbia Law School under Professor Dwight. Subsequently he became Long Island correspondent of the Brooklyn Daily Times, and it was then



Pumping Station N. Y. Inter Urban Water Co., May 1901.

he made up his mind to become a newspaper publisher. After Mr. Fordham had been reporting for the Mount Vernon News for a few months, Dr. Edward F. Brush made him a more lucrative offer to join the reportorial staff of the former mayor's new daily, The Sentinel. When the Sentinel ceased publication, Mr. Fordham joined the staff of the Yonkers Daily Gazette. While in Yonkers he learned that Mr. Arthur F. Blot wished to dispose of the Mount Vernon News and in 1897, he leased the News for one year. When the lease expired Judge George C. Appell, who had, in conjunction with George C. Weiss, and some others, started the News, secured Mr. Blot's stock and on January 1, 1898, the paper was sold to W. B. and E. G. Sutherland, of White Plains. They retained Mr. Fordham as manager and editor. In November of that year, 1898, Mr. Fordham was married to Miss Grace Beresford Burrowes, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Burrowes, of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Fordham have one child, Janice Grace Fordham. Mr. Fordham is a member of the Royal Arcanum, City Club, Westchester Wheelmen and Ancient Order of United Workmen. July, 1899, Mr. Fordham purchased the Mount Vernon News from Messrs. Sutherland. In April, 1900, he published the first number of the Mount Vernon Daily Eagle. The Westchester Publishing Company was incorporated for the purpose of publishing the new daily, and Mr. Fordham who was at the head of the Mount Vernon News Publishing Company, became president of the new corporation. Mr. John H. Bangs, of the New York Sun, and Mr. Harry D. Whittle, of the New York Herald, were interested with Mr. Fordham in the publication of the new daily. The year following the publication of the Daily Eagle, the Daily Argus was made a Republican newspaper, the Daily Eagle becoming the only Democratic daily in the city. The Daily Eagle has been successful, and a paying business proposition from within a few months of the publication of its first issue. It is Democratic in the widest and best sense of the term, and aims to be the progressive newspaper of the community. The Daily Eagle became the official Democratic city newspaper during its second year and was again designated last year by the Common Council. Major J. B. Hopper has charge of the business department of the Daily Eagle and Mr. Harry D. Whittle is news editor. Mr. Fordham has spent over \$10,000 in thoroughly equipping the Eagle with one of the best newspaper plants in Westchester County. A linotype and a Cox Duplex perfecting press, run by electric motors, are among the up-to-date features of the plant, which is located at No. 14 Depot Place, in the City Hall building. The only other newspaper perfecting press (which prints from the roll instead of flat, cut sheets) is in the office of the Yonkers Statesman. The Cox Duplex press prints (both sides at a time) and pastes, cuts and folds 6,000 complete papers per hour. The well equipped job office of the plant is leased to Mr. Walter Rockett, formerly foreman of the Daily Eagle. Walter R. Selth, William J. Harper, and Thomas Hitchcock are on the reportorial staff of the Daily Eagle and Wm. C. Pells is White Plains correspondent.

SIEGFRIED WURZBURG, Police Commissioner of the City of Mount Vernon and successful real estate and insurance broker, was born in Berlin, Prussia, and was educated at the Royal Frederick William High School. After graduating he travelled on the Continent upon important business interests and was for many years a representative of the Jacob Stahl Cigar Factory of New York City. He came to Mount Vernon in 1881 and engaged in the real estate business and now has offices in the Bank Building, Third avenue and First street. He is considered an expert on real values in Westchester County, and represents leading domestic and foreign insurance com-

panies. He is a public-spirited citizen and takes a deep interest in all that appertains to the welfare of his adopted city. Mr. Wurzburg has been Police Commissioner of Mount Vernon since July, 1899. He is one of the Governors of the



SIEGFRIED WURZBURG

City Club, a member of the Masonic Order, Cycle Club and Road Drivers' Association of New York. He has a large circle of friends and acquaintances with whom he is quite popular.

MELVILLE S. PAGE, D.D.S., was born at Middlebury, Conn., where he received his early education, subsequently removing to Woodbury, Conn., where he commenced the practice of his profession and carved his way to success. After leaving Woodbury, he attended the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery in Philadelphia, and graduated with high honors. He practiced his profession in Ohio for a time and came to Mount Vernon in 1887, where he has since resided. He first located on Third street, and then removed to 150 South Second avenue, where his present residence and office are located. He has a very lucrative and extensive practice. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon, and one of its trustees. He is a prominent mason, belonging to King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, Woodbury, Conn., a member of Bethlehem Commandery, No. 53, Knights Templar, of Mount Vernon, and Mecca Shrine, of New York City. Dr. Page has always been a great lover and patron of music, he was formerly organist of the First Congregational Church in Woodbury, Conn., and has been closely identified with the various musical societies in Mount Vernon. He is pleasant in manner, genial in disposition, public-spirited and progressive, and gives his support to all measures for the benefit of the community. He is a kind, conscientious, christian gentleman, a popular and influential citizen and has many warm friends. He was married December 3, 1879, to Miss Flora E. Smith, of Southbury, Conn.

CHARLES WEBER, Alderman, was born in New York City in March, 1860. He was educated in the public schools—afterward learned the trade of butcher with his father, thus perpetuating the name of Weber as a family of butchers. He came to Mount Vernon in 1877, and commenced business under the name of the Weber Packing Company in 1885 on Mount Vernon avenue, and has built up a large, flourishing industry, manufacturing lard, sausage, hams, shoulders, making in fact everything appertaining to a modern packing house. Mr. Weber is a Democrat and has been very active in the affairs of his party, has been efficient in public service as well as influential in party councils. He was elected Alderman of his ward in the spring of 1899, holding over two years and a half to even up the change in the Charter Election. In January, 1901, he was appointed Health Commissioner by Mayor Fiske. In November, 1902, he was again elected to the Board of Aldermen. He is now the Chairman of the Committee on Building and member of the Health, Pounds and Pound Masters and Lighting and Water Committees. Mr. Weber has been very efficient in the Fire Department and is considered one of the best fire fighters in the city. He was the organizer of the Columbus Hose Company and is still a member. He is also a member of the Firemen's Benevolent Association, Exempt Firemen, Royal Arcanum, United



CHARLES WEBER.

Workmen, Turn Verein, Quartette Club and other societies. In 1890 he was married to Miss Christine Rehm. He is thriving and prompt in business and is a good citizen.

WILLIAM ARTHUR MacNICHOLL, D.D.S., is of Scotch-Irish ancestry and the son of Reverend Robert Turner MacNicholl, a prominent clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was born at Roxbury, Conn., May 30, 1876, and when two years of age, moved with his parents to New York City. He was educated in the schools of New York, graduated from Grammar School No. 49, entering the College of the City of New York in 1893. In 1896, he took up the study of dental surgery under the preceptorship of Dr. Baldwin, a noted surgeon of Norwalk, Conn. In the fall of the same year, he entered the Philadelphia Dental College, from whence he graduated in April, 1899, as Treasurer of his class; he was Treasurer also of the Gamma Chapter of Xi Psi Phi Fraternity during the senior year. He passed the New York

State Examination to practice dentistry with honor. The Doctor is also a graduate of the Philadelphia School of Anatomy. He has been a resident of Mount Vernon for three years; he was President of the Young Men's Debating Club of New York; he is now Secretary of the Westchester County Sunday-school Association and Treasurer of several social



WILLIAM ARTHUR MacNICHOLL, D. D. S.

organizations. He is a member of the Chester Hill M. E. Church, Fellow of the Xi Psi Phi Fraternity, the Alumni Society of the Philadelphia Dental College, Garretsonian Philosophical Society and a member of the Bowling Club and several other societies of Mount Vernon. He is not married, but his engagement is announced to Miss Nellie Louise Murdock, daughter of Chas. H. Murdock, a prominent and leading citizen of South Bend, Ind. Dr. MacNicholl is a very popular man, honored for his fidelity to principle, esteemed for his genial manner and loved for his many admirable qualities.

DANIEL C. HICKEY, deceased, was born in Ireland February 24, 1840, and when eight years of age, came with his family to the United States, settling in Lawrence, Mass. He was the son of John and Catherine (Crowe) Hickey, his mother being a sister of Archbishop Crowe, of Ireland. He was educated in the schools of Lawrence, Mass., where he lived. In 1868 he removed to Mount Vernon. Mr. Hickey was a large railroad contractor and achieved much success in tunnelling the Palisades at Fairview, N. J., for the Susquehanna and Western Railroad, and in constructing the Vosburg tunnel for the Lehigh Valley Railroad. He was in great demand by the railroad companies of the country and had accumulated a large fortune at the time of his death. He was a leader in the Democratic party, a Tammany representative and a member of the Democratic State Committee. He was one of the Supervisors of Westchester County, a member of the Roman Catholic Church and one of the founders of the People's



Power House of the Union R. R. Co. at West Farms.

Bank of Mount Vernon (now the First National Bank) and one of its largest stockholders. On August 1, 1874, he married Miss Ellen Elizabeth Bird, daughter of Terrence Bird, of Metuchen, N. J., who survives him and is a much esteemed and accomplished lady and resides in one of the most beautiful residences in Mount Vernon. Mr. Hickey left six children, one by his former wife, Miss Catherine Hickey, and five by the second wife, Mrs. Margaret Winship: Jno. J., Rose M., Nellie J., and Dan'l. C., Jr. He died July 12, 1894, lamented by his neighbors and friends.

WILLIAM ORIGEN THROOP, D.D.S., was born in Schoharie, Schoharie County, N. Y., July 14, 1873. He attended the public schools and graduated in his profession at the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery. He has lived in Mount Vernon five years and is closely identified with her interests. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Dutch Reformed Church. He was married to Miss Margaret A. McIntosh and they have one child, Charles Mortimer



WILLIAM ORIGEN THROOP.

Throop, 2d. Doctor Throop is a worthy representative of his profession, has a large circle of friends, and is very highly esteemed in the city of his adoption.

HENRY B. PRUSER was born in New York City on the fifth day of September, 1857. He was educated in the public schools of New York and graduated from a business college. Afterward he was for a number of years confidential clerk in a large wholesale grocery firm in New York City. He removed to Mount Vernon in 1880 and became engaged in 1885 in the coal business in that city, in which he has continued until the present time. When embarking in this business eighteen years ago, he bought out the Miller Bros. yard, since that time his business has increased greatly and he now has, in addition to large yards in the city, an extensive plant at the foot of Fulton avenue, Eastchester, in which locality he is

one of the pioneers. Mr. Pruser is a Democrat and has been influential in the affairs of his party: he was city treasurer for three consecutive terms, running through a period of six years; he retired from this office in June, 1902. During his incumbency the affairs of the office were conducted with precision and faithfulness. He stands high in the Masonic fratern-



HENRY B. PRUSER.

nity, being a 32d degree Mason, a member of the Mecca Temple, Mystic Shrine, the O. D. O., and also of the Masonic Historical Society of New York; he was master of Hiawatha Lodge for several years, and while in that position was appointed to the office of grand marshal of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of New York. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum, Turnverein and City Club of Mount Vernon. He was married in September, 1882, to Louise M. Neuberth of New York City. They have one daughter, Miss Mary M. Mr. Pruser is a gentleman of pleasing manner and address, and a man of strong personality. He possesses many warm friends, and holds a high position in the business community.

CHARLES FAYERWEATHER SHERMAN was born at Redding, Fairfield County, Conn., on the third day of September, 1872, and educated at the district schools of that place. He has resided in Mount Vernon for the past eight years. He is a commercial teacher and principal of the Mount Vernon Business School, situated at 34 and 36 South Fourth avenue. In politics he is a Republican and although not much of a party man, he believes in its principles. He is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Hiawatha Lodge No. 434, F. and A. M., Mount Vernon Chapter R. A. M., C. J. Nordquist Camp No. 64, S. of V., Vernon Conclave No. 510, Improved Order Heptasophs, New York Commercial Teachers' Association, Registered Business Schools' Association, Treasurer of Young Men's Christian Association and President Westchester County Sunday School Association. He was married on May 8, 1894, at Bridgeport, Conn., to

Miss Susie A. Elliott. The Mount Vernon Business School, of which Mr. Sherman is principal, has been registered by the University of the State of New York (Board of Regents)



CHARLES F. SHERMAN.

since 1898; it is centrally located and convenient to the railroad stations. It has a reputation for fair dealing and maintains satisfactory educational standards and teaches all business subjects. It has a very extensive patronage. Mr. Sherman, though a young man, has attained eminence in his profession; his appearance is commanding and impressive and his dignity of manner is marked by great courtesy and kindness. In recognition of his upright life he has been vouchsafed the respect and esteem of his fellow-men and his diligence, energy and character have won for him the confidence of the community in which he lives.

WILFRED THEODORE VAN YORX, JR., is a native of Bridgeport, Conn., and was born in 1870. His education was received in the district schools of Connecticut. He is by



Mr. and Mrs. WILFORD T. VAN YORX.

profession a singer and vocal teacher; he has a large and select clientele, his studio being at No. 6 East 17th street, New York City. He also has charge of the Vocal Depart-

ment of the Conservatory of Music at Hartford, Conn., to which work he gives much attention. For the past seven years Mr. Van Yorx has been very prominent in the concert and oratorio field and he enjoys the distinction of being one of the most prominent artists in that work in the country. He is at present the tenor soloist in the choir of All Souls' Church (Unitarian), 20th street and 4th avenue, New York, and also in the choir of the Temple Emanuel, 43d street and Fifth avenue, New York. He is independent in politics, is a member of the Siwanoy Country Club of Mount Vernon, and of the Masonic Order, among other degrees being a Knights Templar. Mr. Van Yorx has resided in Mount Vernon for the past three years and by his pleasant and courteous manner has made a large number of friends. On November 11, 1895, he was married to Miss Ida Belle Cooley; they have two sons. Mrs. Van Yorx is soprano soloist in the Madison avenue Baptist Church, corner 31st street and Madison avenue, New York. The joint recitals of Mr. and Mrs. Van Yorx are very popular musical functions, especially in the Eastern and Central States.



E. GUILFORD BAUMAN, D. D. S.

E. GUILFORD BAUMAN, D.D.S., whose residence and office is at 141 South Tenth avenue, Mount Vernon, N. Y., was born in Guilford, Conn., in 1875. In 1886 he took up his residence in Mount Vernon and has resided there ever since, having received his preliminary education in the public schools of that city, of which he is a graduate. He is also a graduate of the New York Trade School, after which he entered and graduated from the New York College of Dentistry, the profession which he now so successfully practices. Dr. Bauman is a member of the Westchester County Wheelmen's Club of Mount Vernon, N. Y., a member of the Golden Rod Council of the Royal Arcanum and of the Siwanoy Country Club of this city and also a member of the New Rochelle Yacht Club.



The Circle, North Fourth and Lincoln Avenues.
 Park, Eleventh Avenue and First Street.
 Claremont Avenue, looking North.



Monument Park.
Park, Glen Avenue and Willow Place.

CARL ELIAS DUFFT, M.D., was born at Erfurt, Germany, May 22, 1855. He came to this country at an early age and was educated in the public schools of Western Pennsylvania and graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City. He is a professional singer and vocal teacher. He stands in the front rank of his profession, having studied with such eminent preceptors as Frederick Walker, Edwin Holland and William Shakespeare in London, and in New York with Alberto Laurence, Louisa Cappiani, George Sweet and James Sauvage. Dr. Dufft is very prominent in church and oratorio work; he is at present the bass soloist in the choir of the Marble Collegiate Church, 29th street and Fifth avenue, New York City, of which Dr. David James Burrell is pastor, while in oratorio he is well known in all of the principal cities east of the Mississippi river. He is at the head of the Vocal Department of the Chautauqua Institution, situated at Chautauqua, N. Y.; to this branch of the work the "Chautauqua" is now devoting much attention, with a view of making it one of the most prominent and efficient departments. Dr. Dufft's studio in New York City is at No.



CARL ELIAS DUFFT.

30 East 23d street; he has made Mount Vernon his home since the fall of 1900. In politics he is independent; he is a member of the Siwanoy Country Club of Mount Vernon, Crescent Lodge No. 402, F. and A. M., Crescent Chapter No. 220 R. A. M., and the Palestine Commandery No. 18; he is also a Scottish Rite Mason of the 32d degree and a member of the Mecca Temple of the Mystic Shrine. Dr. Dufft is broad-gauged and progressive in his ideas and is endowed with much energy and perseverance, possessing great personal magnetism. On June 26, 1894, he was married to Miss Bertha Marie Carr, of Springfield, Mass.; they have three bright and interesting children: Carl E., Jr., James Henry and Regina Marion.

WILLIAM E. VAN ARSDALE, the well-known undertaker and embalmer of Mount Vernon, was born in New York City, July 16, 1862. He was educated in the district schools of the city, and has been a resident thereof for thirty-seven years. After graduating in the public schools, he attended the Oriental College of Embalming in Boston, Mass., graduating therefrom September 29, 1891. He is a Republican, but has never held nor sought office of any kind. He is a member of the Church of the Ascension (Episcopal), Wheelmen's Westchester Club, Odd Fellows, Knights of St. John and Malta, Improved Order of Heptasophs and of the Royal Arcan-

um. He was married April 18, 1888, to Miss Minnie K. Weyand, of New York, and they have one daughter, Fannie A. Mr. Van Arsdale is a representative business man, affable and



WILLIAM E. VAN ARSDALE

polite and justly ranks among the best citizens of the community.

GEORGE W. FENNELL was born April 4, 1878, in New York. He was educated in the public schools and graduated



GEORGE W. FENNELL.

from the New York Institute. He is engaged in the real estate business, and is the senior member of the firm of George

Fennell & Co., dealers in furniture and carpets, with stores at 110-114 South Fourth Avenue, Mount Vernon, and in New York City. He is a member of the City Club of Mount Vernon and of the Royal Arcanum, is a business man of ability, and is a pleasant, courteous gentleman, possessing the confidence and regard of all who know him.

MAURICE J. SULLIVAN. Here is a man who will be always an aggressive force in any community where he may live, a man who thinks rapidly and acts quickly. Here is a man who sees, and seeing observes. Correct bases of conviction and judgment are the resultants. Here is a man who has in him no chicanery nor seed of treachery, discriminating in his thought, judicial in his judgments. Having weighed men or measures in the light of reason, fitness, capability, having thus reared his structure of conviction or belief, this man clings stubbornly to principle, goes "sled-length" with his friend, and abides with his opponent unto the end of the road. Maurice Joseph Sullivan was born forty-six years ago in the Murray Hill district of New York City. He is a graduate of St. Gabriel's School, famous for its high standards. When the lad left school thousands of men released from the Army of the Civil War were seeking employment. All chances of endeavor were congested with applicants. Young Sullivan standing with his face to the morning made his way into the Federal Service at the New York Custom House, making his way among older men and war veterans. He acquired there the self-reliance that comes to men of metal when ground in such a turmoil as the Customs Service in New York City.

The father had died years before, and the demise of the cherished mother loosened the local tendrils and the youth left New York. He made his base at Philadelphia, and introduced for a firm of that city the scroll-saw and its remarkable possibilities. Youngster that he was Sullivan had fitted his shoulders to life's responsibilities, and he was entrusted with a wonderful display of scroll work at the Centennial in 1876. Such capabilities challenged attention and when his work at the Centennial had closed he was drawn into the employ of a great machinery and tool manufacturing concern. During his residence in Philadelphia, Sullivan strengthened his life position by marriage with a beautiful and gracious woman, Miss Therese C. Kellar, daughter of Andrew C. Kellar, a leading shoe manufacturer of Lancaster, Pa. Then came other evidences of development, among them a desire for the wider field of the metropolis. He became allied with the New York Steam Heating Company, pushing their system into general use. At this juncture the wave of building construction rolled into upper Manhattan, and Sullivan divining the trend of the tide plunged into interests that were potent in covering the Harlem district with new homes. With keen vision the young man foresaw the inevitable advance in realty values, and by an easy stride he stepped into the real estate business. He followed and led in this enterprise until Harlem was settled, and then he pushed out to the border possibilities. Naturally enough he moved his family to Williamsbridge in 1887. There the man's dominant spirit, his sterling integrity and ceaseless push, brought him into the governing board of the newly incorporated village. Thence he moved to Mount Vernon and became identified there with large real estate and building operations, reaching constantly for new channels. Mr. Sullivan, two years ago, turned his attention to an invention for the saving of coal in stoves, boilers and heaters. This has so developed in its results and possibilities that Mr. Sullivan has recently organized a company in New York, of which he is Secretary and Treasurer. In all the progress of his business life Mr. Sullivan has not neglected the social and ethical side, being pro-

minent in each. He has grown abreast of the times, being an omnivorous reader and a thinker of breadth and liberal tendencies. He is an ardent lover of music and has been a leading tenor in churches of New York City and Westchester County. He has organized and vitalized a literary club of Mount Vernon citizens, in which the political and social problems of the age, day and hour are subjected to keen scrutiny and broad, intelligent debate. The influence of such a man in his community cannot be fully measured in his own day. The results of Mr. Sullivan's interest and endeavor will be strongest in years to come, after the city's formative period has passed and when his posterity harken back with respect to the memory of a mother who was their guide, and to the influence of a father who was a standard for them and for his community.

CLARENCE S. MERRILL, ex-alderman of Mount Vernon, was born November 24, 1870, and is the son of Oliver H. and Anna F. Merrill. He was educated in the public schools of Manchester, Conn., and the High School of Hartford. He



CLARENCE S. MERRILL.

then entered the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md. He became a citizen of Mount Vernon in 1897. For thirteen years previously, he was connected with the Underwood Manufacturing Company of Tolland, Conn., first as salesman for seven years and afterwards was their manager in New York. His political affiliation is with the Democratic party; he was elected alderman of the city of Mount Vernon in 1899 and served with great ability and efficiency until November, 1901. He is a member of the Commercial Travelers Club, Golden Rod Council of Royal Arcanum, Clinton Hook & Ladder Co., and many other societies. In June, 1892, he was married to Lelia C. Munsey, of Laconia, N. H. They have two daughters: Ella and Anna. Mr. Merrill is a man of great natural ability and energy, is courteous, well-informed and enterprising, and takes a prominent part in



Two Old Landmarks.
The Stevens Homestead, Residence of Mr. George Stevens.
The Collins Homestead, Residence of Mr. W. J. Collins.

the social life of Mount Vernon. For the past year he has been the general agent for Westchester County for the Acolyte Company, manufacturers of apparatus for perfecting combustion, with home offices at 237 Water street, New York City, and who do a very extensive business.

GENERAL HENRY H. BOYCE was born in Ohio, being the youngest of five boys; his father, whose family numbered ten children, removing, when the subject of this sketch was but three years old, to Wisconsin, where he engaged extensively in farming and railroad building. Here the future soldier, as soon as he was old enough, worked on the farm in the summer and attended the district school in the winter. From the time he was twelve years of age until he was sixteen, he performed all of the work of a man, ploughing, driving a breaking-team and hauling grain to market twenty miles away. All of his spare time was given to study, preparing to enter college. When the Civil War broke out he was one of the first to respond to President Lincoln's first call, but was not able to get into the three-months' service. A little later he enlisted for three years in the 45th Illinois Volunteer Infantry and was rapidly promoted to second lieutenant in November, 1861. He was promoted first lieutenant for gallantry on the field at the battle of Shiloh, and was made captain of his company when twenty years of age. His regiment participated in twenty-three battles, being with the army of the Tennessee all the way from Cairo, Ill., in 1861, to Washington D. C., in 1865. At Fort Donelson, February 15, 1862, Lieutenant Boyce was severely wounded, being shot through the hip while his regiment was assaulting the works. At Vicksburg on the 25th day of June, 1863, Captain Boyce was again desperately wounded, while his regiment, the 45th Illinois was leading the assault on Fort Hill. In honor of that gallant charge, the regiment was given the right of the line when General Grant's victorious army marched into Vicksburg, July 4, 1863, and the flag of the 45th Illinois was the first to be raised over the court-house in the captured city. Captain Boyce later was with his regiment in the Georgia campaign, and after that in Sherman's "March to the Sea." He was chief engineer of 3rd Division 17th Army Corps, being Logan's old division, serving on the staff of General M. D. Leggett, whose high appreciation of Captain Boyce's soldierly qualities is shown by the letter given below, and addressed to Governor Yates, the war governor of Illinois.

Headquarters, 3rd Division 17th A. C.
Army of the Tennessee.

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 28, 1864.

His Excellency, the Governor of Illinois,

Governor:—Captain Henry H. Boyce, 45th Regiment Illinois Veteran Volunteer Infantry, has just been obliged to resign his position in the army, in consequence of the unfavorable condition of a wound received during the siege of Vicksburg, while assaulting "Fort Hill," on the 25th of June, 1863. In our late campaign he has been a member of my staff, and has acted as chief engineer of my division. It is due to Captain Boyce that I should state, that whether with his regiment or on staff duty, he has always displayed to a high degree the qualifications of a soldier and gentleman. Always affable, kind and generous, intelligent, gallant and brave, yet cool and discreet and his habits strictly temperate and upright. No officer in my command is more highly esteemed, and none more worthy of confidence and respect. I take great pleasure in recommending him to your kindest regards. Very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

M. D. LEGGETT, Brig.-Gen'l.

After leaving the army, the subject of this sketch was employed in teaching and other work and removed to California some years later, where he was engaged in real estate and banking business. He organized the Southern California National Bank, now the Merchants National Bank, at Los Angeles, Cal., and was its first president. The bank is a prosperous concern and has been a dividend payer from the start. Governor R. D. Waterman commissioned him Brigadier-General commanding the First Brigade National Guard of California. On account of business General Boyce removed east in 1891, and later purchased a home in Mount Vernon, at 345 Bedford avenue, where he has resided for the last nine years. In 1899 he was elected president of the Wyoming Southern Railway Company, and in 1902 he was elected president of the Lowe Coke and Gas Company, capital \$5,000,000. General Boyce is an active and influential Republican, and at the present time is vice-president of the Republican Club of Mount Vernon and vice-chairman of the Republican City Committee of Mount Vernon.

JOHN J. HICKEY, a son of the late Daniel C. Hickey, is a native of Mount Vernon, N. Y., and was born August 17, 1878. He was educated at Fordham College and graduated at Mount St. Mary's College, Emmettsburg, Md. He has been a resident of Mount Vernon all his life; he is President of the Mount Vernon Automobile Company, one of the directors of the First National Bank of Mount Vernon, a



JOHN J. HICKEY.

member of the Siwanoy Country Club, Automobile Club of America, Mount Vernon Engine Co. No. 3, and of the Firemen's Benevolent Association. He was married on May 24, 1901, to Marie M. Rosenheimer. Mr. Hickey is a rising young business man, of good habits and fine appearance, and devotes great attention to the Automobile Company, of which he is president. He is well and favorably known, with a remarkable faculty for the conduct and dispatch of business.

WILLIAM W. HIGGINS was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., on November 30, 1877. He received his education in the public schools. He was first engaged in the real estate business in New York City with J. Delmage Trimble. In 1898 he enlisted in the 71st Regiment of New York, Company B, and was a good soldier during the Spanish-American War. After its termination he was occupied as a builder in New York and Indiana. He returned to Mount Vernon in November, 1901, and he is now proprietor of the Westchester Transfer Company, with office at the New York and New Haven Railroad Station. He was married to Miss Charlotte R. Roe, of Mount Vernon, daughter of the late Josiah Roe. They have two children, William and Walter. Mr. Higgins is a member of the Spanish War Veterans and the 22d Regiment of Engineers of New York. He belongs to the Church of the Ascension, Chester Hill, Mount Vernon. He stands well in



WILLIAM W. HIGGINS.

the community, is a good citizen, kind and unassuming, and his rectitude of character has gained for him the esteem and confidence of his fellow-men wherever he is known.

JOHN HENRY ARMBRUSTER, whose studio is located at No. 56 South Fifth avenue, Mt. Vernon, was born at White Plains, N. Y., February 23d, 1865, where he received his education in the public schools. Politically, Mr. Armbruster is a conservative Democrat. He has never held nor sought any office. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum and of the Protestant Episcopal Church. In photographic matters Mr. Armbruster is a master of his profession, he having served for more than twenty-five years in that line. Most of the portraits reproduced in this volume were made in his studio. He



JOHN H. ARMBRUSTER.

has a large and select clientele for whom he executes work. Mr. Armbruster is popular with all classes.

The office building here represented is occupied by the Westchester Lighting Company, one of the notable business concerns of the city of Mount Vernon, which furnishes both gas and electricity to the city, as well as to nearly the entire county of Westchester, and to part of New York, supplying



Westchester Lighting Co. Building.

about two hundred and fifty thousand people with these necessities. Through the offices occupied by the Company in Mount Vernon is transacted not only the local business, but the general business for its entire territory. Some idea may be obtained of the magnitude of its business, and the benefits

derived from the operations of this Company by the city of Mount Vernon, when it is known that more than a hundred and fifty men are constantly employed in the offices here, who, if not already residents, necessarily become such, many of whom have families, and who receive in salaries over \$10,000 a month, the most of which is paid out to various local merchants and business people. In addition, the Company pays to the city of Mount Vernon over \$9,000 annually in taxes, and to the business firms of the city, for supplies of different kinds incident to the local requirements, more than \$100,000 annually; it is, therefore, an industry of no small importance to the community. The same proportion of expenditure occurs in the other districts in the county covered by the Company's operations. The working force of the Company is from a thousand to twelve hundred employees. Since the absorption of the minor companies by the Westchester Lighting Company, the records show a gradual decrease in the price of both gas and electricity to its consumers; and the people of this city generally bear witness to the satisfactory service. The Company has done much recently in the way of introducing electric power and gas engines into small manufacturing plants. The results have been entirely satisfactory; and in view of the present scarcity of coal, and its prohibitive price, the motive power supplied by this Company is likely to become more popular in the future.

NEW YORK TELEPHONE CO. On January 1, 1900, there were in service in the city of Mount Vernon, 386 telephone stations. The Central Office was located in the building at No. 24 South Fourth avenue, and the equipment was the old style magneto kind. The New York Telephone Company since taking charge of the business has constructed a new building, designed for telephone purposes, at No. 40 South 5th Ave., a picture of which is shown in this book. On January 18, 1902, the magneto equipment was taken out and the very latest and best type of common battery equipment was substituted. The number of stations in service January 18, 1902, was 971; the number of stations in service on December 1, 1902, was 1,307, being an increase of 921 since January 1, 1900. Equipment necessary to serve 6,000 subscribers is provided and, with the rapid growth of the city of Mount Vernon and the increased popularity of the telephone service, the Company hopes to secure enough subscribers within the next few years to utilize the entire equipment provided.

THE MOUNT VERNON WATER CO. was originally incorporated January 28, 1882, by 33 then leading and representative citizens of Mount Vernon, who nominated the following named gentlemen from their number to serve as Trustees for the first year: Charles Hill Willson, Oliver Dyer, Joseph S. Wood, Gerd Martens, David Quackenbush, William D. Chapin, Burr Davis, John Berry, Edson Lewis, Max Huss, Elijah N. Wilson, Simeon L. Close. Their source of supply was from an artesian well sunk in property on South Seventh

avenue, near Third street. The well still remains, though the machinery has been dismantled. This company was succeeded by the New York and Mount Vernon Water Company, incorporated January 23, 1886. The controlling interest of this company was in New York City. At that time the pumping station was located at a point where the N. V., N. H. & H. R. R. Co. intersects the boundary line between Mount Vernon and Pelham and its supply was then taken from the Hutchinson river. The station still remains at this point, although it has been enlarged and much improved since that time. On March 26, 1891, the New York City Suburban Water Company was created to take over the predecessor company and to provide means for increasing the supply of water required by the increasing wants of the rapidly growing city. Much property for reservoir purposes was acquired within the present limits of the city of New Rochelle and many costly improvements were undertaken for the purpose of yielding a better service to the city. The filter plant, one of the first to be inaugurated in this country, was constructed during that period. The strain of these heavy expenditures, running into hundreds of thousands of dollars, coupled with the financial depression which existed at that time, resulted in the insolvency of the company, which was re-organized and succeeded by the New York Suburban Water Company, incorporated May 25, 1895. Under this corporation the rights to the watershed of the Mamaroneck river were secured. The present company, the New York Inter-Urban Water Company, acquired all property and rights of the former company on November 28, 1901. The present company has extended and enlarged upon the improvements begun under the administrations of the several predecessors, by constructing a large conduit main, 7 miles in length, from Mamaroneck to Mount Vernon, and has now approaching completion at Mamaroneck, one of the most beautiful and complete pumping stations in this part of the country. It is expected, when this station shall have been completed, that the combined resources of the company will be equal to the water requirements of a city of 200,000 population. Many statistics affecting the water company may be found on pages 8 and 9 of the Mayor's report for 1899-1900. The company has nearly 50 miles of mains and nearly 500 hydrants in the city. The State Geologist for Pennsylvania, commissioned by the U. S. Government to inspect and report upon the water companies of the country, for use in construction and enlargement of the services for the cities of Washington, D. C., and Philadelphia, Pa., imparted to the writer that, after a thorough investigation of water plants throughout the country, he considered that the Mount Vernon plant, from the neatness of its surroundings, the quality of water supplied, and the general standard of its operation, was the most satisfactory of those he had visited, and that Mount Vernon, for a city of its size and class, had no superior in the matter of a water service.



THE EVERETT PIANO COMPANY

AND ITS WORLD FAMOUS PRODUCT.

Frederick Wallace, in the December (1902) number of the "National Magazine" has written a long illustrated article entitled

"The Making of the Everett Piano," which opens as follows: The justly celebrated Gabrilowitsch has recently been giving a number of performances at and near Boston. Those who have had the good fortune to hear them have had a musical treat, indeed, a treat to be remembered. Music so beautiful, so sweet, so clear, rarely meets and charms the ear. The rise and swell and fall of melodies, the rapid flow of sound, all under such mastering guidance; now rushing along like a winter's torrent, now meandering like a summer's stream, until the very air feels instinct with music. Aside from the triumph of the artist, I was interested in the conquest of the American artisan who made this possible. I wished to know something about the instrument on which he played—the Everett Piano. I no longer wonder at the thrilling effects heard from such an instrument when in the hands

of a great master, exercising boundless control over its wonderful capabilities."

It is not necessary to follow the detailed description of the manufacture of the Everett Piano in this place, as the Everett has a world-wide reputation as an instrument of the highest possible artistic qualities. Not only Ossip Gabrilowitsch, the great Russian pianist, but Richard Burmeister, the eminent German pianist, our own Mme. Nordica, the great opera singer, and hundreds of other musicians use this matchless instrument in their concert work. The Everett manufactory is located in Boston, occupying the entire block on Albany street from Warcham to Malden streets. This is one of the largest, most perfectly appointed plants for the manufacture of artistic pianos in the world, and has been called "a veritable school of art with every man an artist." The Company has branch houses in Cincinnati and Chicago, while the New York house, where always is displayed a very large number of the choicest grands and uprights, is located at 141-143 FIFTH AVENUE, NEAR 21st STREET.



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